

CRACK COMICS

NOVEMBER
No. 51

10¢

QUALITY
COMIC
PAPER



HAS
Captain TRIUMPH
met his
EQUAL?





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Captain TRIUMPH



So you don't believe
in werewolves?

Neither did Captain Triumph
...until he met one in a
struggle that could not end
until one fighter was
DESTROYED!

For it was a cursed creature,
against which normal
defenses were futile, and
even the miraculous
strength and courage of
Captain Triumph had to
be rallied to the fullest!

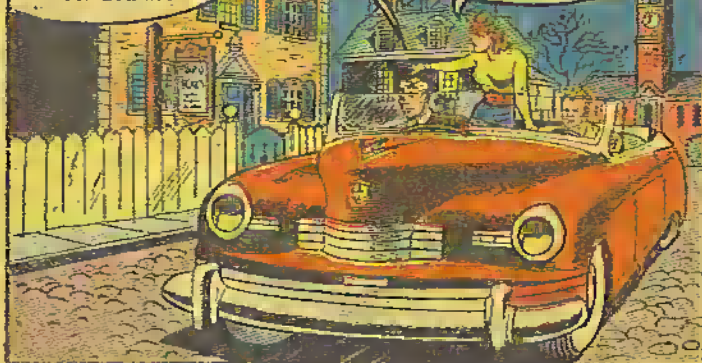


When Lance Gallant touches
the strange birthmark on
his wrist, the ghost of his
valiant brother Michael
merges with him into the
indestructible, invincible
Captain TRIUMPH!

Lance Gallant and his pals Kim and Biff have just completed an adventure...they *THINK*!

WE LOST THE ROAD SOMEHOW! THIS DUMP DOESN'T HAVE A HOTEL... NOT EVEN A RESTAURANT!

LOOK! A TOURIST HOUSE! MAYBE WE CAN STOP THERE FOR THE NIGHT!



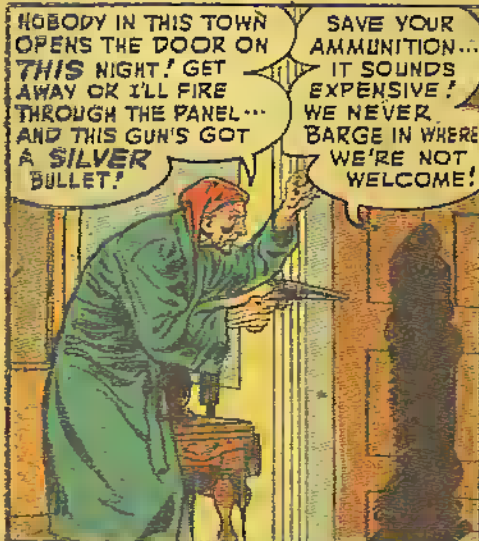
WHO... WHO'S THERE?

SOME LATE CUSTOMERS! OPEN UP AND LET US IN!



NOBODY IN THIS TOWN OPENS THE DOOR ON THIS NIGHT! GET AWAY OR I'LL FIRE THROUGH THE PANEL... AND THIS GUN'S GOT A SILVER BULLET!

SAVE YOUR AMMUNITION... IT SOUNDS EXPENSIVE! WE NEVER BARGE IN WHERE WE'RE NOT WELCOME!



DID YOU HEAR THAT, BIFF? A SILVER BULLET... AS IF WE WERE SOME KIND OF EVIL SPIRITS! WHERE IS KIM GOING?

SHE SAW SOMEBODY MOVING DOWN THE STREET! SHE DECIDED TO ASK IF...



AHHH!

IT'S KIM! COME ON!



WHAT'S UP? WHO ARE YOU? WHATCHA TRYING TO DO?

ANOTHER FOOL!

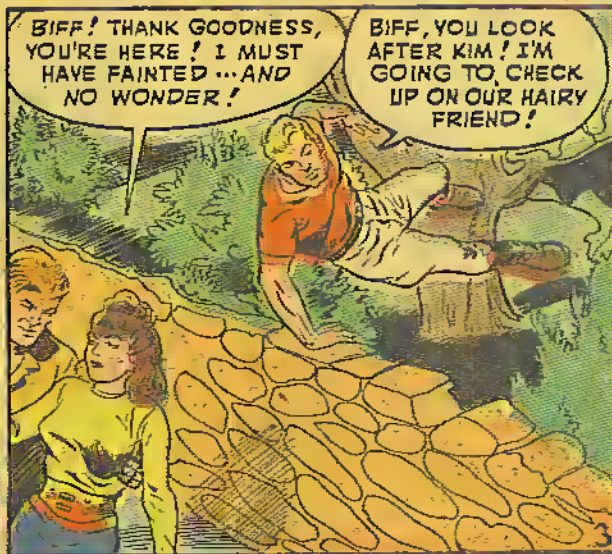
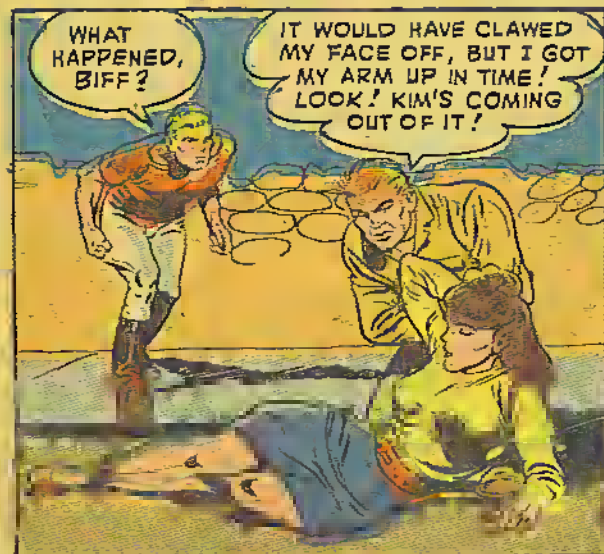


Pausing for a moment, Lance touches the mark on his wrist to call forth the spirit of his dead twin brother, Michael...

YOU'RE RIGHT, LANCE! HERE I COME!



The two merge to become the indomitable Captain Triumph!





OH...
OH...

WHO ARE YOU? WHAT HAPPENED
TO THAT HAIRY THING I SLAPPED
OVER HERE A MOMENT
AGO?



THE WEREWOLF... YES!
I TRIED TO STOP IT...
IT STRUCK ME DOWN...
A SEVERE BLOW IN
THE FACE!

COME NOW! YOU DON'T
EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE
IN **WEREWOLVES**...
WIZARDS WHO CAN
CHANGE THEMSELVES
INTO HAIRY
MONSTERS!



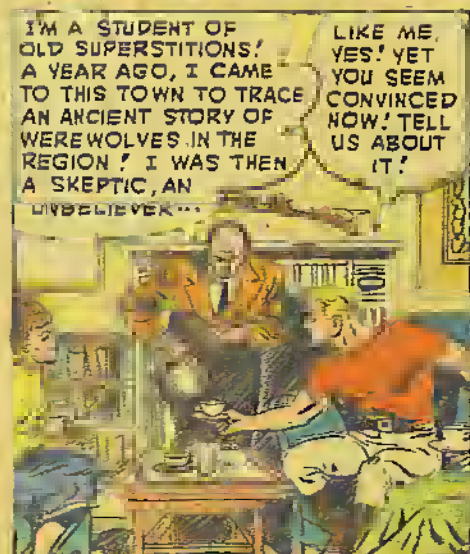
MAYBE YOU DON'T
BELIEVE IN WEREWOLVES,
CAP... BUT KIM AND I DO!
WE JUST GOT ROUGHED
UP BY ONE... AND IT WAS
TOO CLOSE TO LEAVE ANY
DOUBT!

MY NAME IS
RAFFREY! HERE'S
MY HOUSE...
COME INSIDE, ALL
OF YOU, BEFORE
THE MONSTER
RETURNS!



TO KEEP A WEREWOLF
FROM ENTERING, WE BURN
A CHARMED CANDLE AND
BAR THE DOOR WITH A
HEAVY BEAM OF THORN
WOOD!

THAT SOUNDS LIKE
ANCIENT WITCHCRAFT!
YOU LOOK MODERN
ENOUGH TO ME! HOW
COME YOU BELIEVE
IN SUCH A HORRIBLE
LEGEND?



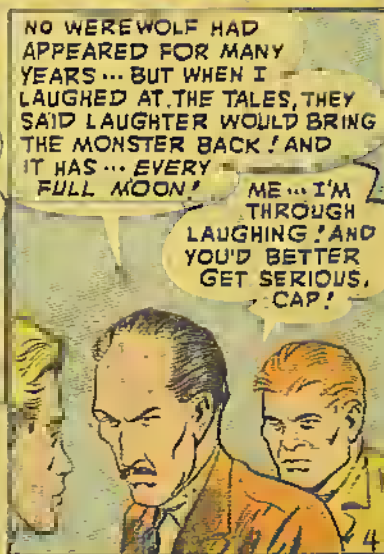
I'M A STUDENT OF
OLD SUPERSTITIONS!
A YEAR AGO, I CAME
TO THIS TOWN TO TRACE
AN ANCIENT STORY OF
WEREWOLVES IN THE
REGION! I WAS THEN
A SKEPTIC, AN
UNBELIEVER...

LIKE ME,
YES! YET
YOU SEEM
CONVINCED
NOW! TELL
US ABOUT
IT!



I FOUND THE CITIZENS
BARRING THEMSELVES
INDOORS ON THE NIGHT
OF THE FULL MOON...
ONCE A MONTH!

SUCH AS TONIGHT!
DID THEY DO
THAT BECAUSE
OF WEREWOLVES?



NO WEREWOLF HAD
APPEARED FOR MANY
YEARS... BUT WHEN I
LAUGHED AT THE TALES, THEY
SAID LAUGHTER WOULD BRING
THE MONSTER BACK! AND
IT HAS... EVERY
FULL MOON!

ME... I'M
THROUGH
LAUGHING! AND
YOU'D BETTER
GET SERIOUS,
CAP!

SINCE YOU'VE STUDIED THE LEGEND, JUST WHAT IS A WEREWOLF?

ONE WHO CAN CHANGE SHAPE TO SOMETHING NEITHER MAN NOR BEAST... BUT WORSE THAN EITHER! IT IS MURDEROUS... POWERFUL! IT CAN CLIMB, FLY, AND SMASH DOWN DOORS NOT PROTECTED BY CHARMS! HAVING KILLED ITS VICTIM, IT TURNS BACK INTO A MAN, AND NONE CAN TRACE IT!



A CHANGE OF SHAPE AND PERSONALITY! THAT SOUNDS IMPOSSIBLE... EVEN THOUGH I HAD A CLOSE LOOK AT THAT UGLY CREATURE MYSELF!

CATERPILLARS CHANGE INTO BUTTERFLIES, TADPOLES CHANGE INTO FROGS, AND YOU, CAPTAIN TRIUMPH... WELL, WHY SHOULD WEREWOLVES BE IMPOSSIBLE?



I SEE YOU'VE GOT AN OLD BOOK ABOUT WEREWOLVES! LIKE-WISE WORKS ON MEDICINE... GLANDULAR CHANGES...

MY STUDIES HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLE! I HOPE TO LEARN THE EXACT WAY THAT THE WEREWOLF CHANGE IS MADE!



THIS BOOK ABOUT GLANDS TELLS US THAT A BIG CHANGE IN SECRETIONS MAY CAUSE A CHANGE IN APPEARANCE AND PERSONALITY... BUT THAT TAKES YEARS!

YOU ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE ME, MY FRIEND! IT MAY BE THAT CHANGES ARE SPEEDED UP... BY METHODS UNKNOWN TO ORDINARY SCIENCE!



ANYWAY, YOU GOT PLENTY O'ERVE, MR. RAFFREY... BELIEVING THESE THINGS, YET COMING OUTSIDE WHEN NOBODY ELSE DARES!

I HEARD THIS LADY SCREAM! I COULD NOT CLOSE MY EARS TO HER!



BUT DAWN WILL BRING SAFETY! YOU CAN STAY AND CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY THEN!

THE MOON REMAINS FULL TOMORROW NIGHT! WE'LL WAIT AND HOPE FOR ANOTHER MEETING WITH MR. WEREWOLF!





But when left alone, Captain Triumph touches the mystic mark and divides into the twin brothers....

I'M STAYING HERE TO READ UP ON THE WEREWOLF BUSINESS, MICHAEL! SUPPOSE YOU DRIFT OUT AND EXPLORE THE TOWN!

OKAY, LANCE! THESE CHARMED BARS AND CANDLES MAY KEEP WERE WOLVES FROM DRIFTING THROUGH DOORS, BUT NOT ME!

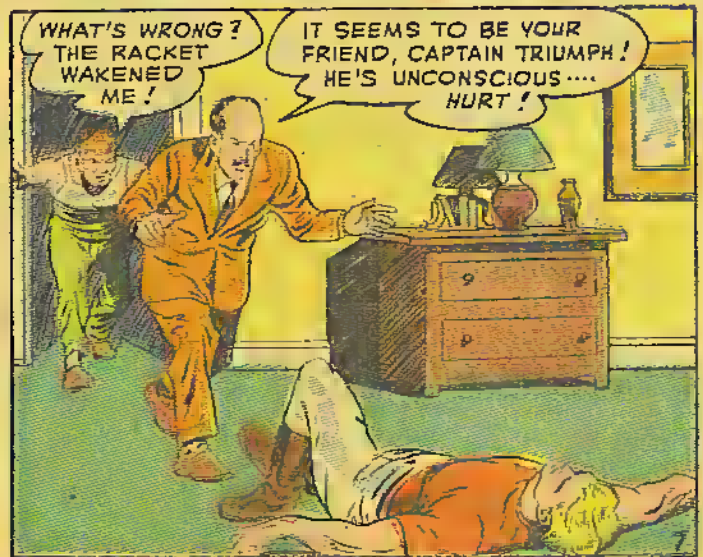
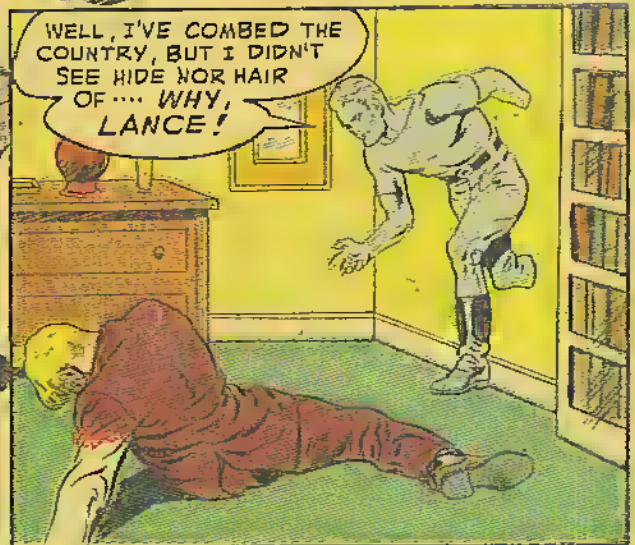
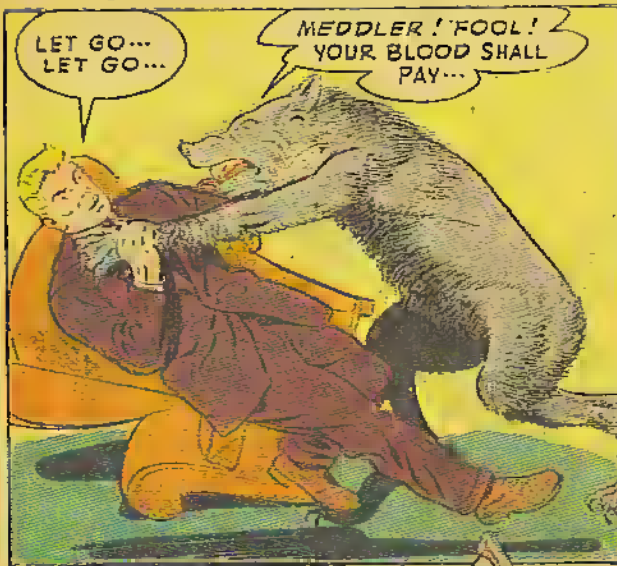


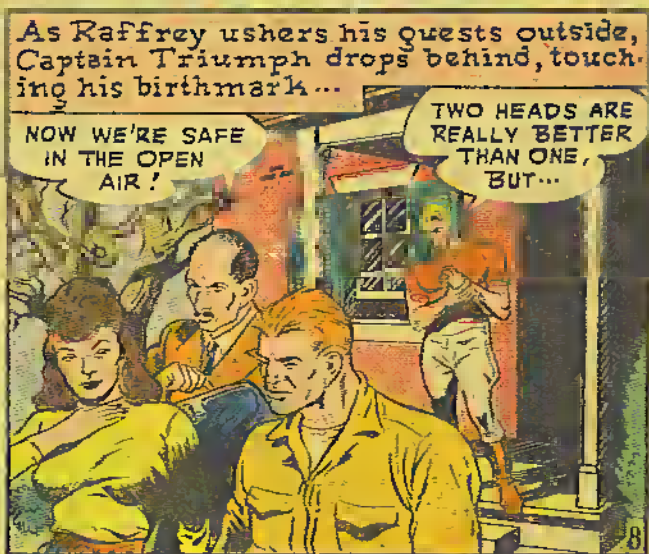
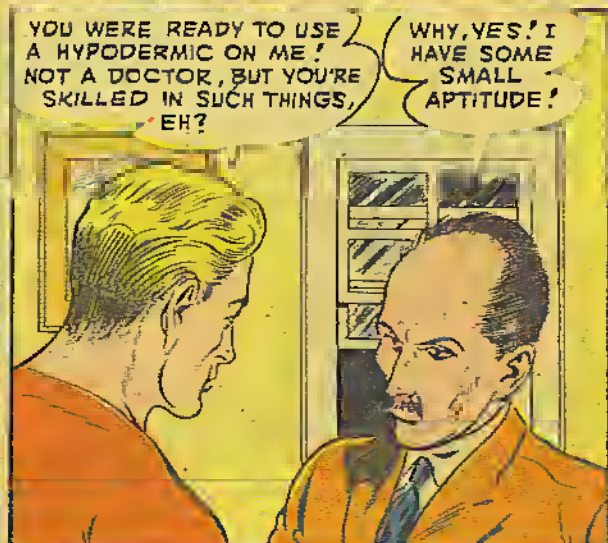
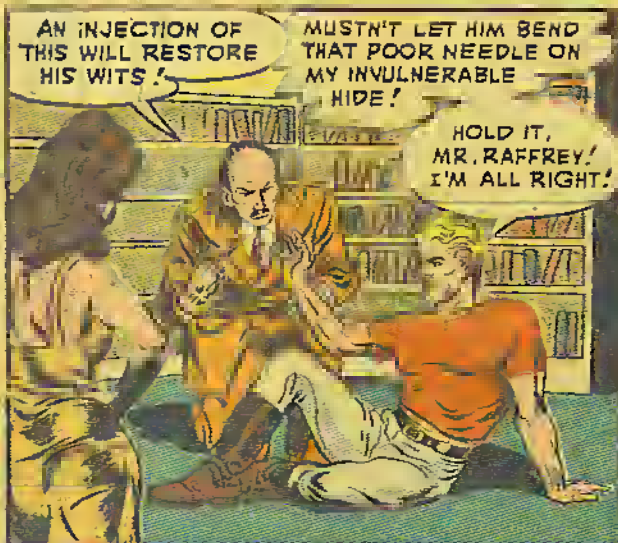
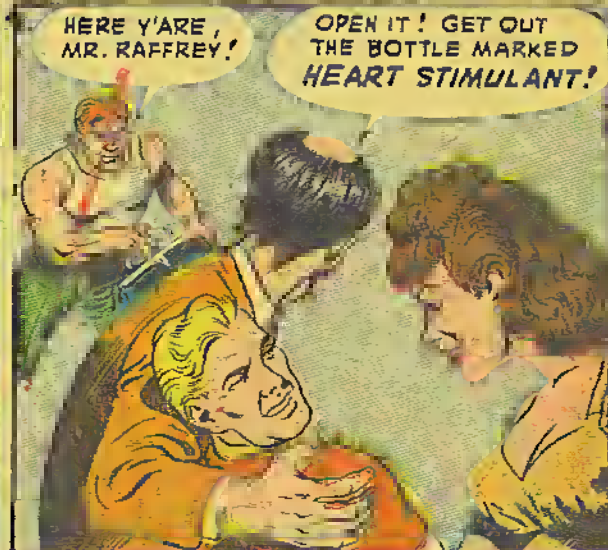
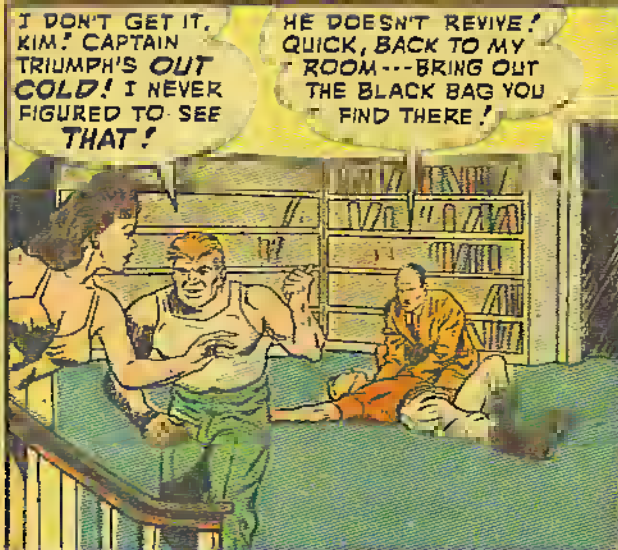
INTERESTING... AND SOMEWHAT CONVINCING! THE WEREWOLF BELIEF IS EVERYWHERE, AND THERE ARE LOTS OF INCIDENTS! SOME SCIENTISTS TRY TO EXPLAIN IT NATURALLY! THE CHANGE HAPPENS QUICKLY AND COMPLETELY, IT SAYS HERE!



A BRAVE RESISTANCE, A HARD BLOW THAT DRAWS BLOOD, MAKES THE WEREWOLF TURN BACK INTO A MAN! AND SOMETIMES THE MAN IS HORRIFIED AT THE THINGS HE DID AS A BEAST... HIS HEART CHANGES WITH HIS APPEARANCE!



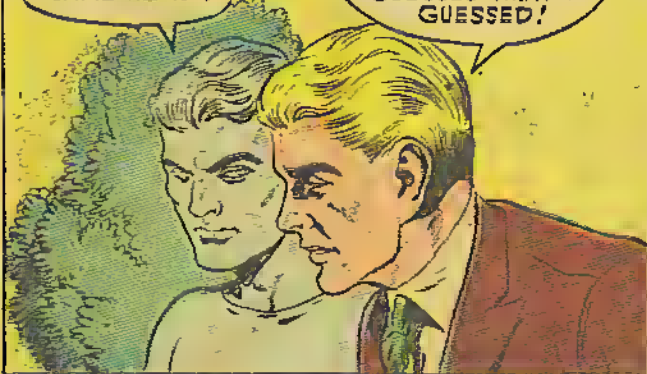




...Lance and Michael separate their personalities and confer ...

AS CAPTAIN TRIUMPH WAS SAYING ABOUT TWO HEADS ... JUST NOW OUR TWO HEADS WERE THE SAME HEAD!

WHICH MEANS YOU KNOW WHAT I KNOW, MICHAEL ... SAW WHAT I SAW AND GUESSED WHAT I GUESSED!



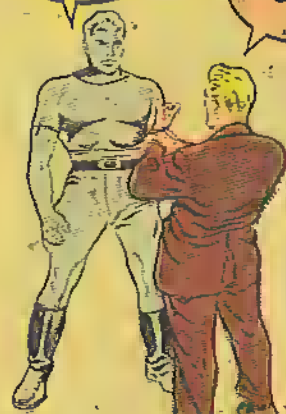
FOR INSTANCE, THE HYPODERMIC NEEDLE ... THE GLAND MEDICINE ... RAFFREY'S STRANGE SKILL AND KNOWLEDGE!

AND THE WERE-WOLF, ITSELF! **INSIDE** HERE, NOT OUTSIDE! DO YOU AGREE WITH MY THEORY?



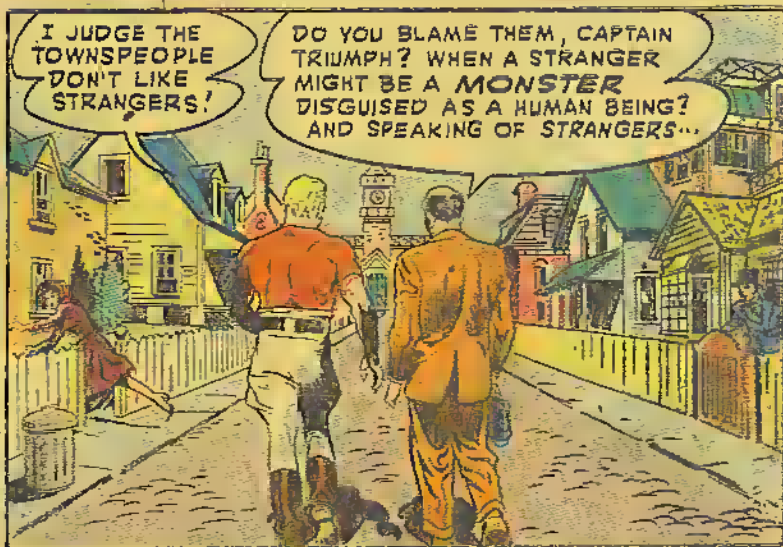
YES, BUT IT'S ONLY A THEORY, SO FAR! TONIGHT WE MAY **PROVE** IT!

LET'S BE CAPTAIN TRIUMPH AGAIN AND JOIN THE OTHERS!



I JUDGE THE TOWNSPEOPLE DON'T LIKE STRANGERS!

DO YOU BLAME THEM, CAPTAIN TRIUMPH? WHEN A STRANGER MIGHT BE A **MONSTER** DISGUISED AS A HUMAN BEING? AND SPEAKING OF STRANGERS...



THERE ARE ONLY **THREE** OF YOUR PARTY! YET WASN'T ANOTHER STRANGER AROUND LAST NIGHT, A YOUNG MAN RATHER LIKE YOURSELF IN APPEARANCE, BUT DRESSED DIFFERENTLY AND NOT QUITE SO **RUGGED**?

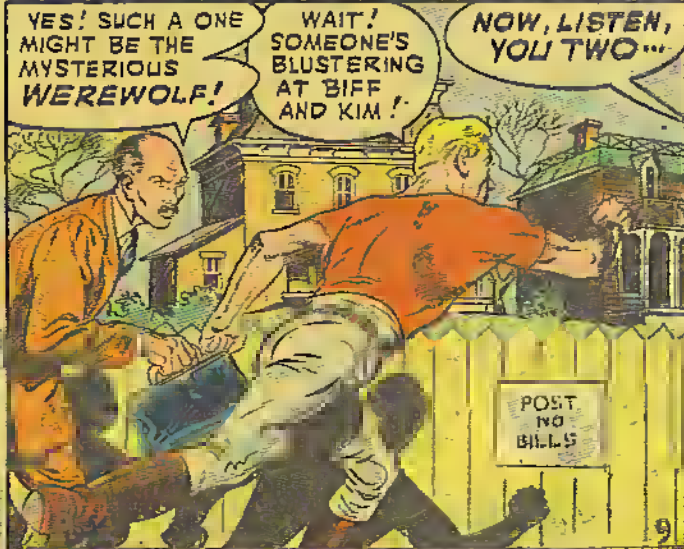
YOU WERE GOING TO SUGGEST...



YES! SUCH A ONE MIGHT BE THE MYSTERIOUS **WEREWOLF**!

WAIT! SOMEONE'S BLUSTERING AT BIFF AND KIM!

NOW, LISTEN, YOU TWO...



WE DON'T LIKE STRANGERS NONE! IF YE WANT TO STAY HEALTHY, GIT GOIN' SOMEWHERE ELSE!

LOOK, FRIEND, THIS IS AMERICAN SOIL AND WE'RE AMERICAN CITIZENS! IF YOU'VE ANY CHARGES TO MAKE, TAKE THEM TO LAW!

YE KNOW THE KIND O' CHARGE I'M TALKIN' ABOUT! ORDINARY LAW PEOPLE DON'T BELIEVE IN SECH THINGS ... BUT WE KNOW THEY'RE SO!

IF YOU MEAN WERE WOLVES, YOU'RE OFF BASE! AND SINCE YOU WON'T BE LAW-ABIDING ABOUT IT...

THIS HERE IS THE LAW I'LL BRING INTO PLAY!

ANIMAL, VEGETABLE OR MINERAL?



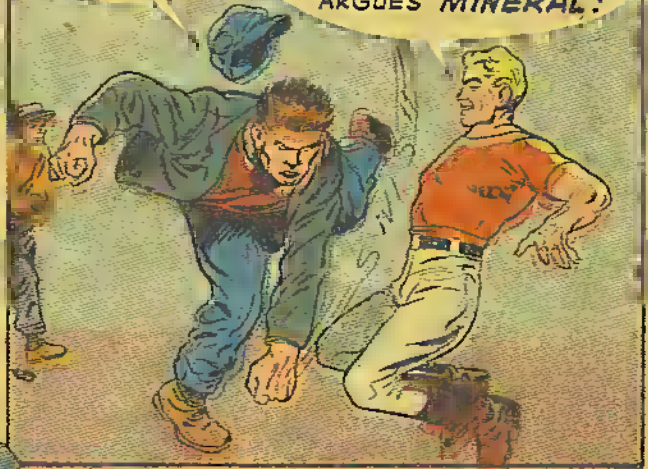
GRRRR!

TO JUDGE BY THE NOISE YOU'RE MAKING, IT'S ANIMAL!



I'LL

OR, THE HEAVY WEIGHT OF YOUR MOVEMENTS ARGUES MINERAL!



BUT THE WOODENNESS OF YOUR ARGUMENTS MAY MEAN VEGETABLE! SUPPOSE ...

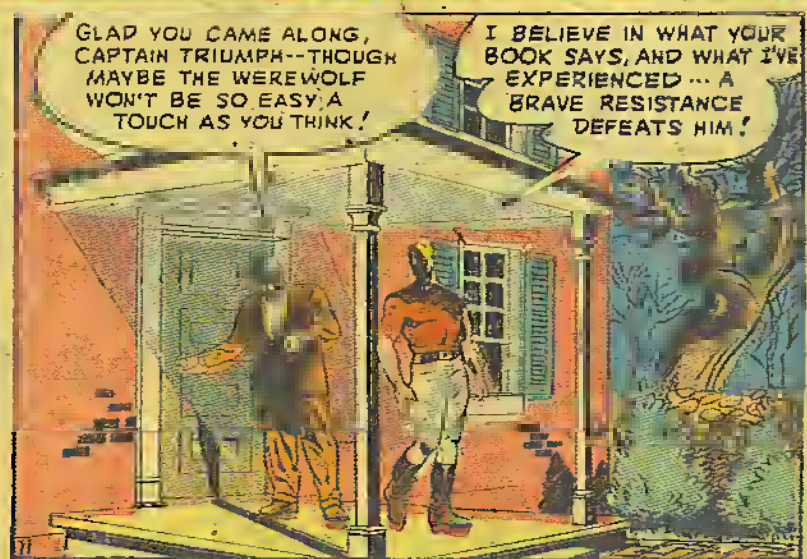
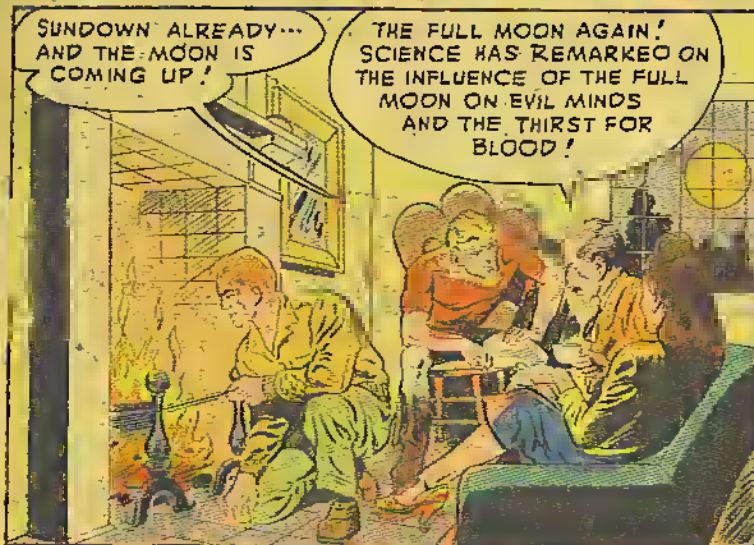
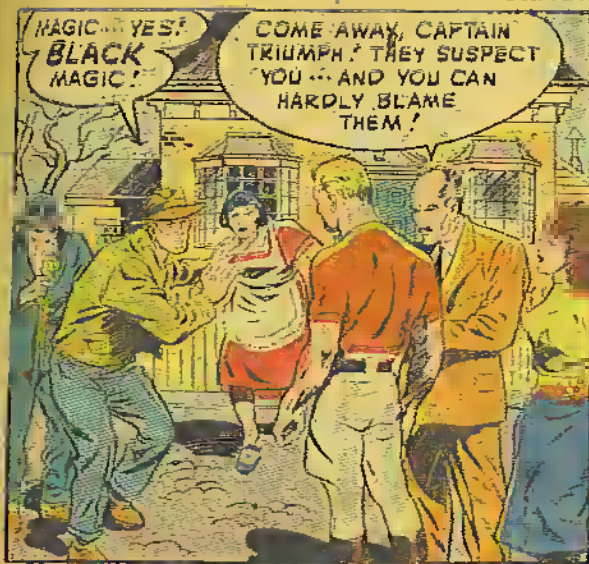
LOOK! BULLY BLEDSOE, STRONGEST MAN IN THE TOWNSHIP... THAT STRANGER HANDLES HIM LIKE A KID!



IT MUST BE MAGIC!

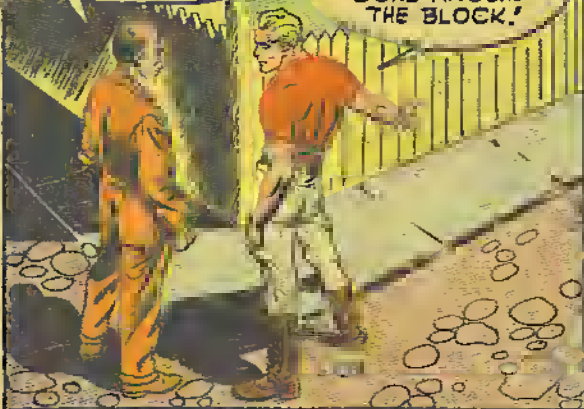
MAYBE, MY FRIEND! SHALL I TAKE A RABBIT OUT OF A HAT FOR YOU?





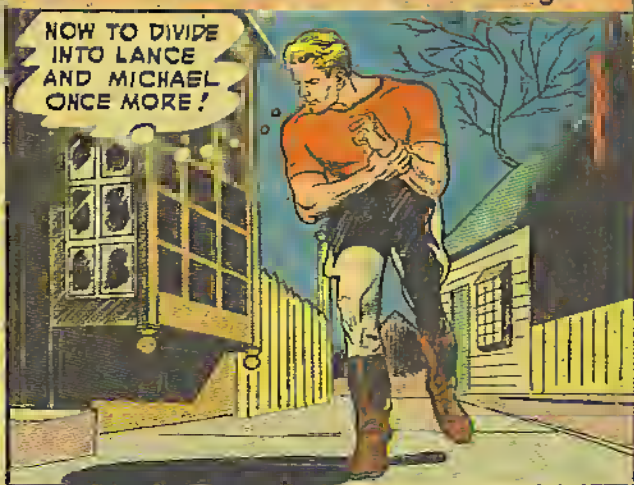
THE WEREWOLF MAY HAVE LEARNED SOMETHING, TOO... AND MAY NOT HAVE TO RETREAT FROM YOU AGAIN!

I'LL CHANCE IT! LET'S EACH GO AN OPPOSITE WAY, EXPLORE, AND MEET WHEN WE'VE GONE AROUND THE BLOCK!



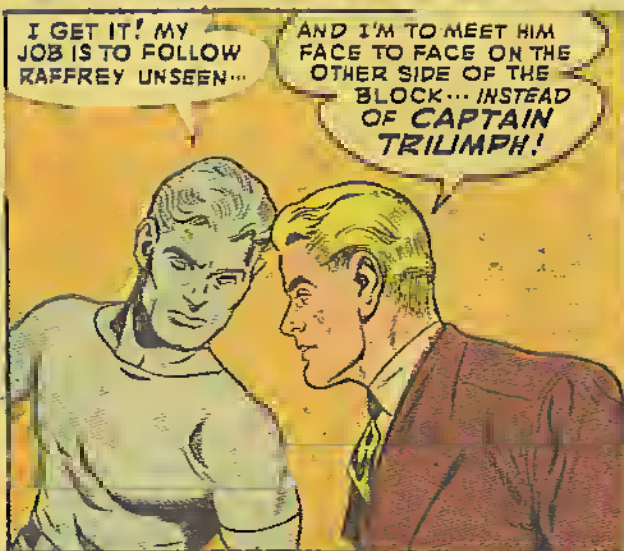
As Captain Triumph turns a corner, he touches the birthmark once again...

NOW TO DIVIDE INTO LANCE AND MICHAEL ONCE MORE!



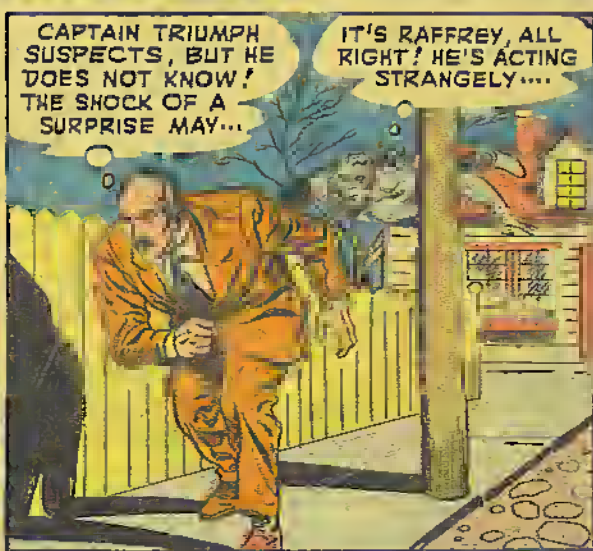
I GET IT! MY JOB IS TO FOLLOW RAFFREY UNSEEN...

AND I'M TO MEET HIM FACE TO FACE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BLOCK... INSTEAD OF CAPTAIN TRIUMPH!



CAPTAIN TRIUMPH SUSPECTS, BUT HE DOES NOT KNOW! THE SHOCK OF A SURPRISE MAY...

IT'S RAFFREY, ALL RIGHT! HE'S ACTING STRANGELY....



ALL THE WAY AROUND THE BLOCK! THERE HE COMES FACE TO FACE WITH LANCE!

YOUNG MAN, I THINK WE'VE MET BEFORE!



I KNOW YOU! I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE!

THAT CONFESSION GIVES YOU AWAY, JUST AS IT DID WHEN YOU MENTIONED ME THIS AFTERNOON, MR. WEREWOLF RAFFREY!



THE ONLY LOCAL CITIZEN WHO SAW ME FACE TO FACE WAS THE WEREWOLF HIMSELF... WHEN WE FOUGHT IN THE PARLOR!

RIDICULOUS!



I CAME HERE TO **STUDY** THE WEREWOLF LEGEND...TO **FIGHT** IT! WHY SHOULD I **BECOME** SUCH A MONSTER?

YOU BEGAN BY SEEK-
ING KNOWLEDGE!
WHEN YOU FOUND
IT, IT CHANGED
YOUR HEART...MADE
YOU **MURDEROUS!**

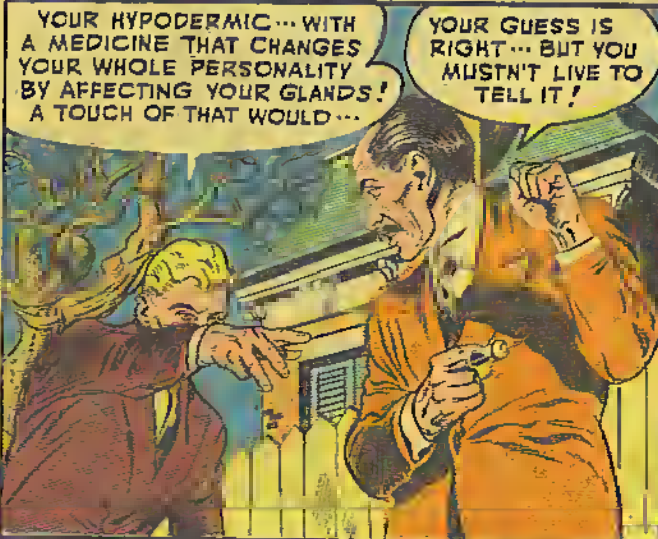
YOUR BOOKS INCLUDE WORKS
ON GLANDULAR CHANGES!
PERHAPS YOU FOUND OUT THAT
THE SECRET OF THE WEREWOLF
WAS TO CHANGE GLAND ACTION...
SPEED IT UP...TURN INTO A
BEAST IN FORM AND
CHARACTER!

PERHAPS IT
MIGHT BE
DONE ...
ESPECIALLY
UNDER THE
FULL MOON!
BUT HOW?



YOUR HYPODERMIC...WITH
A MEDICINE THAT CHANGES
YOUR WHOLE PERSONALITY
BY AFFECTING YOUR GLANDS!
A TOUCH OF THAT WOULD...

YOUR GUESS IS
RIGHT... BUT YOU
MUSTN'T LIVE TO
TELL IT!



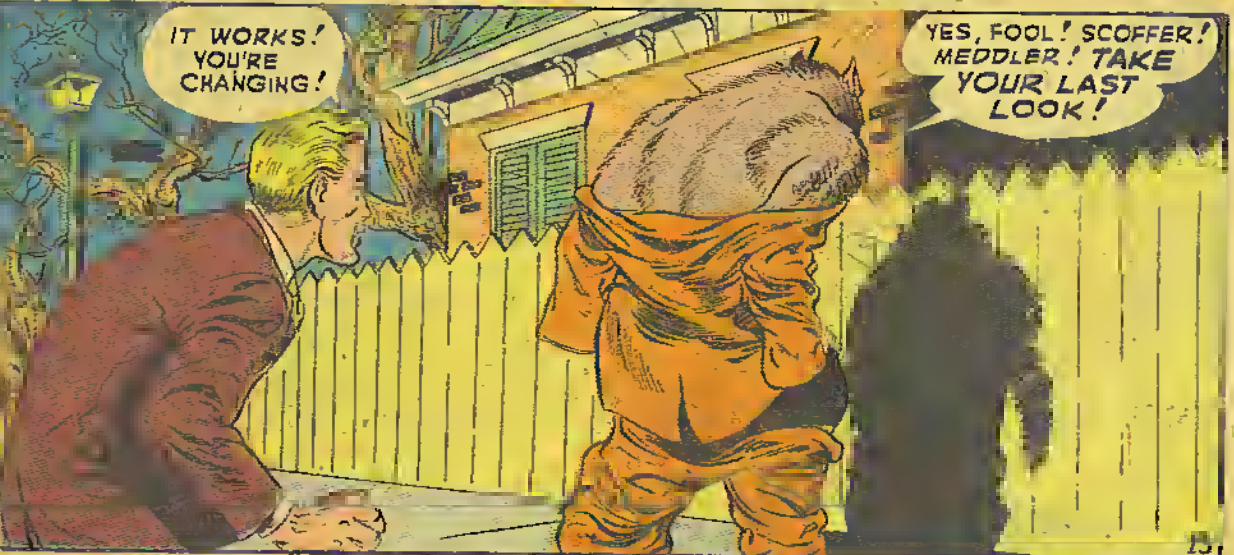
YOU'RE GOING
TO LET ME
WATCH?

WHY NOT? IT WILL BE
YOUR LAST GLIMPSE
OF EARTH!



IT WORKS!
YOU'RE
CHANGING!

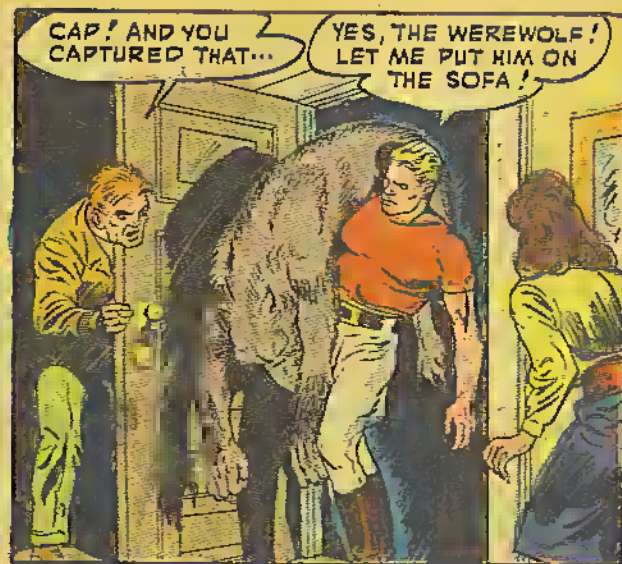
YES, FOOL! SCOFFER!
MEDDLER! TAKE
YOUR LAST
LOOK!





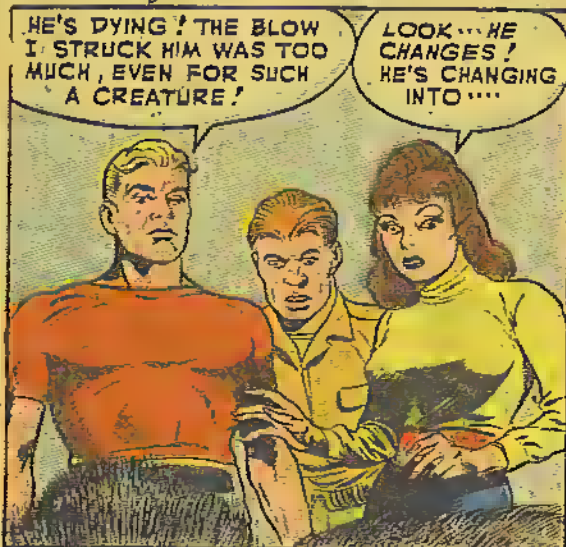


HE'S KNOCKED COLDER THAN A WEDGE... BUT HE KEPT THE WEREWOLF SHAPE! NOW I MUST TAKE HIM BACK TO HIS HOUSE!



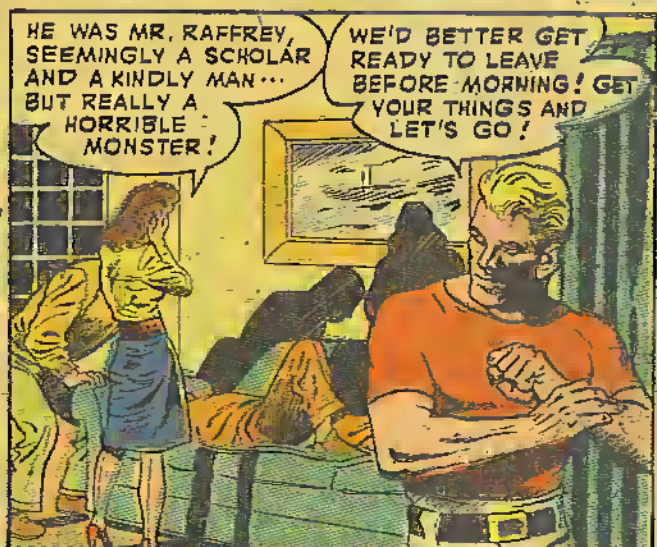
CAP! AND YOU CAPTURED THAT...

YES, THE WEREWOLF! LET ME PUT HIM ON THE SOFA!



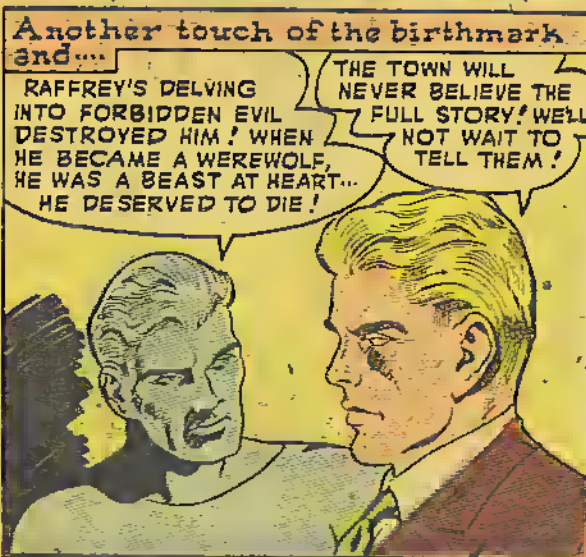
HE'S DYING! THE BLOW I STRUCK HIM WAS TOO MUCH, EVEN FOR SUCH A CREATURE!

LOOK... HE CHANGES! HE'S CHANGING INTO...



HE WAS MR. RAFFREY, SEEMINGLY A SCHOLAR AND A KINDLY MAN... BUT REALLY A HORRIBLE MONSTER!

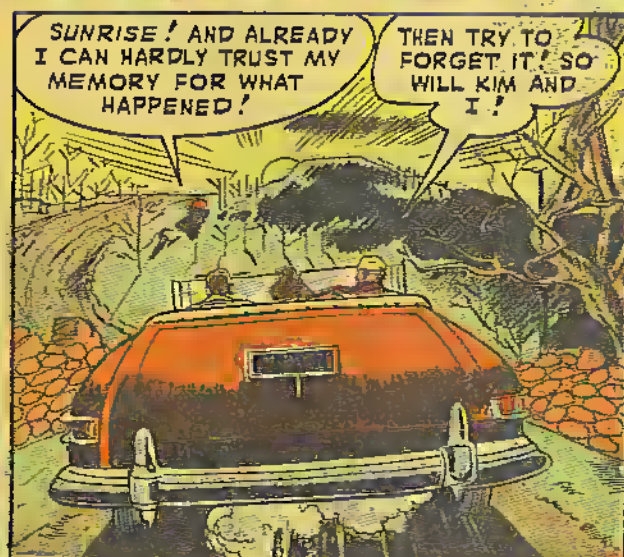
WE'D BETTER GET READY TO LEAVE BEFORE MORNING! GET YOUR THINGS AND LET'S GO!



Another touch of the birthmark and...

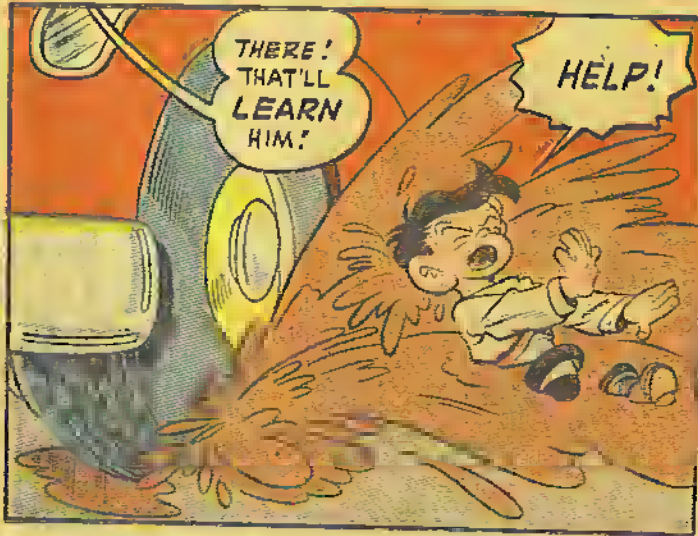
RAFFREY'S DELVING INTO FORBIDDEN EVIL DESTROYED HIM! WHEN HE BECAME A WEREWOLF, HE WAS A BEAST AT HEART... HE DESERVED TO DIE!

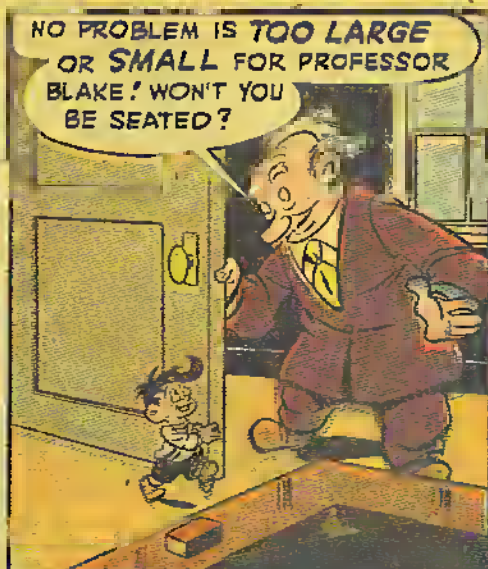
THE TOWN WILL NEVER BELIEVE THE FULL STORY! WE'LL NOT WAIT TO TELL THEM!

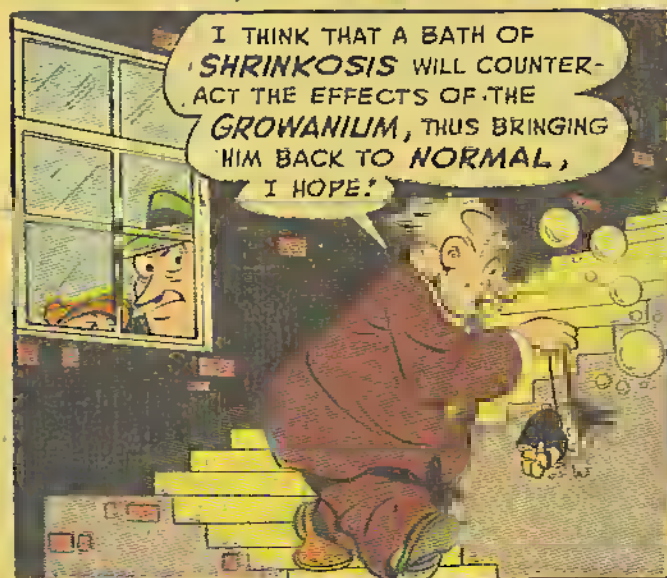
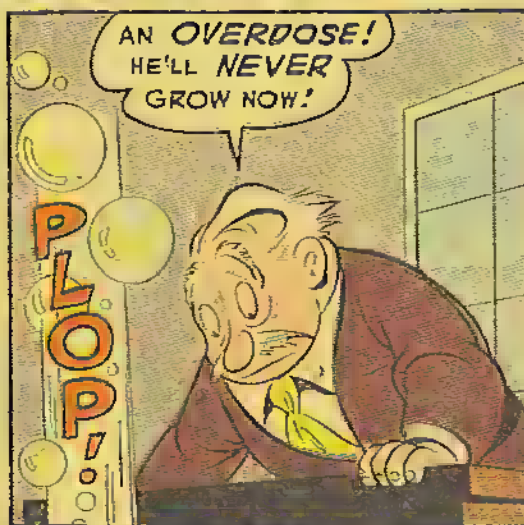
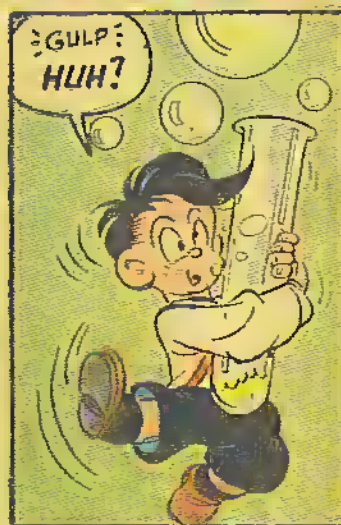
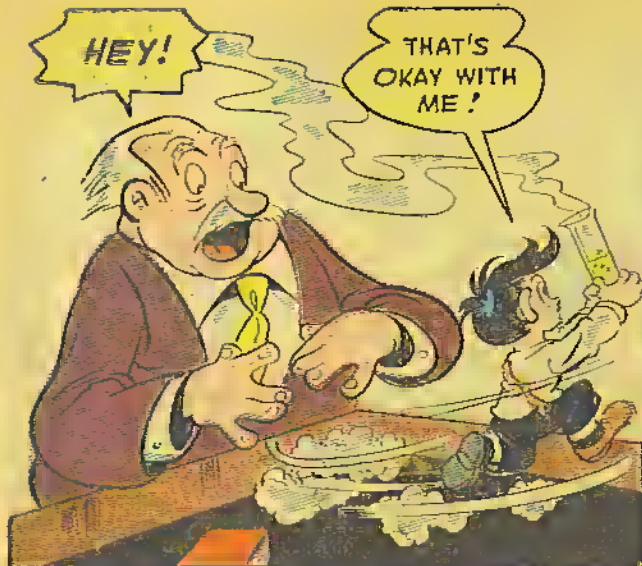


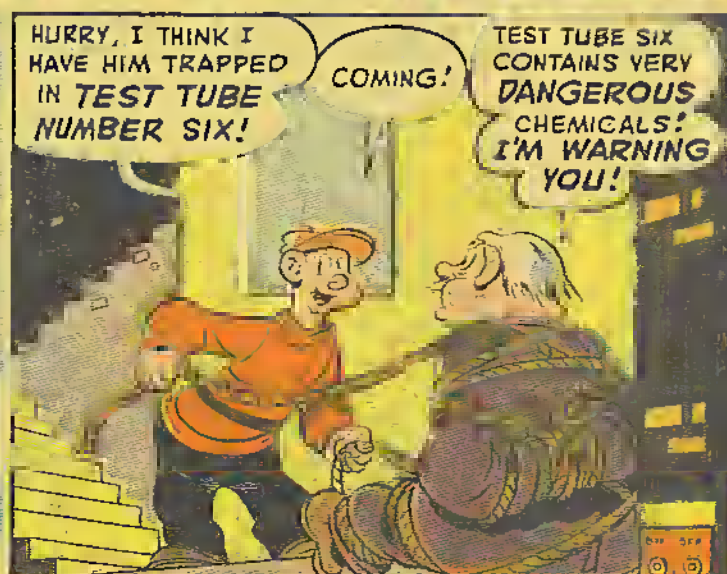
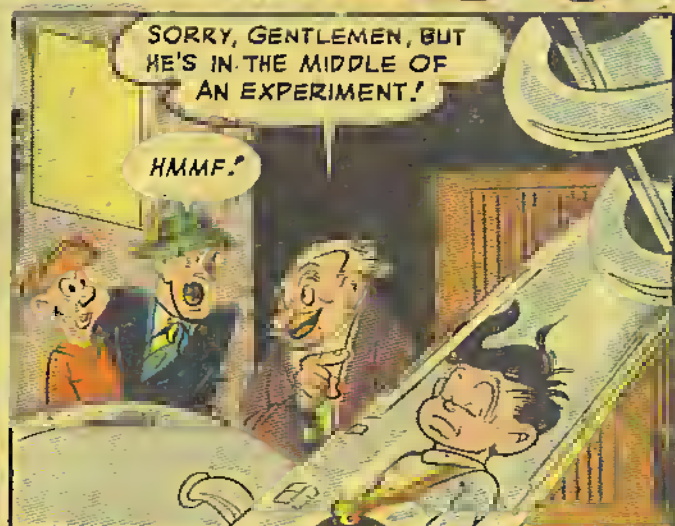
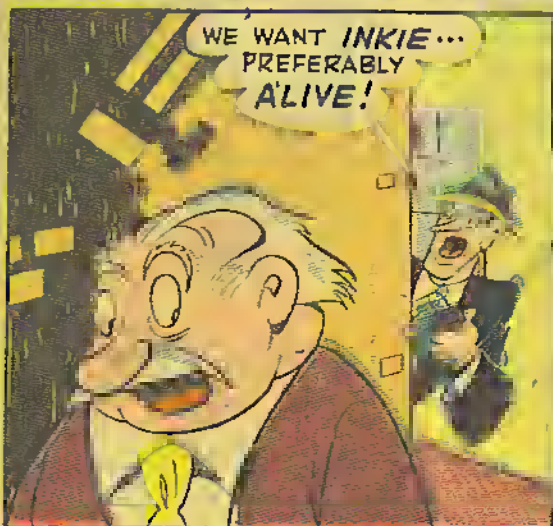
SUNRISE! AND ALREADY I CAN HARDLY TRUST MY MEMORY FOR WHAT HAPPENED!

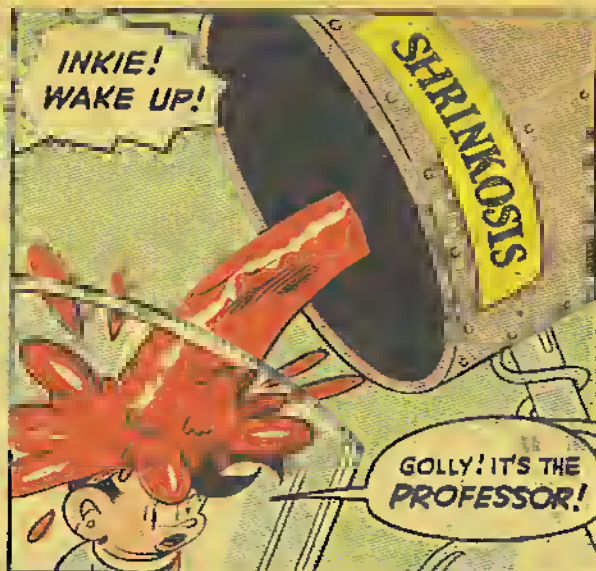
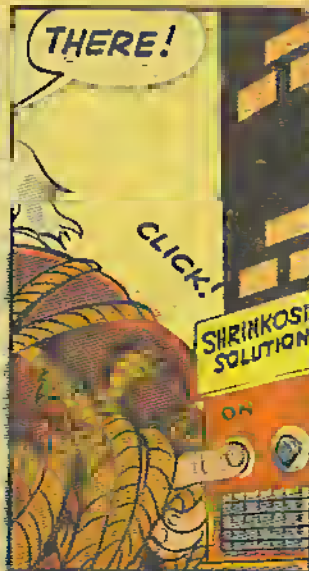
THEN TRY TO FORGET IT! SO WILL KIM AND I!

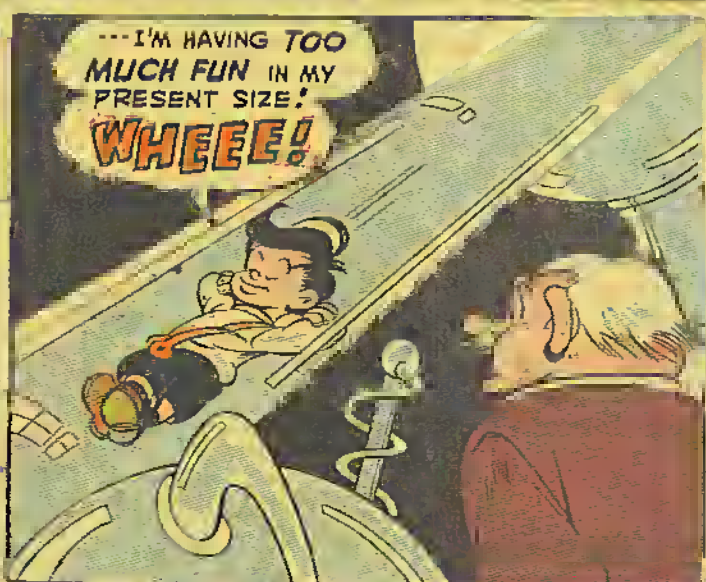
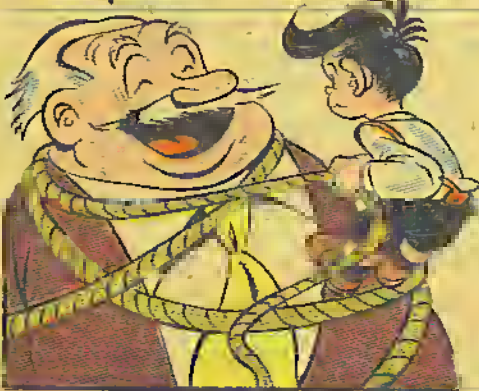
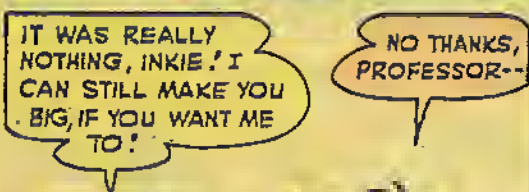
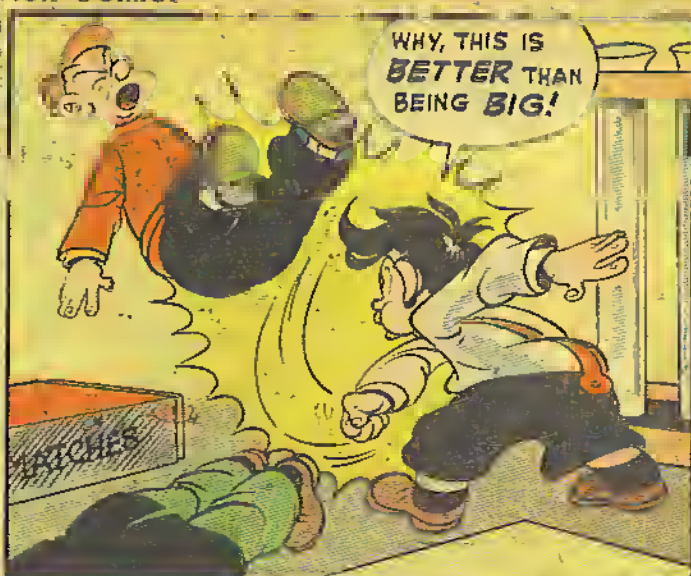




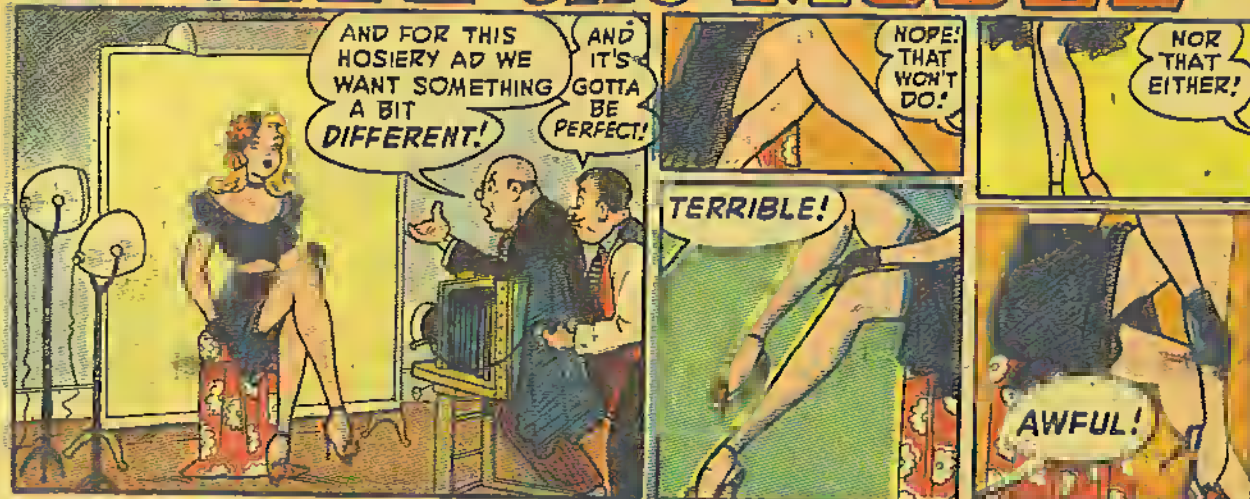




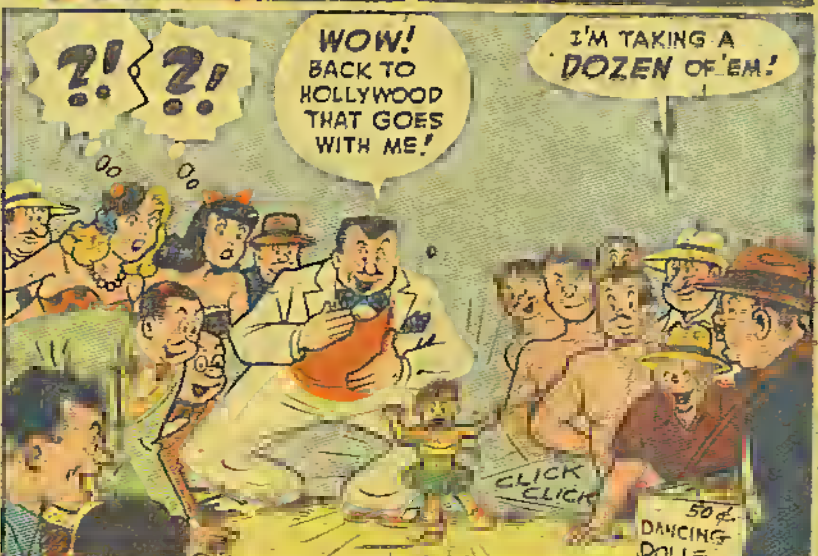
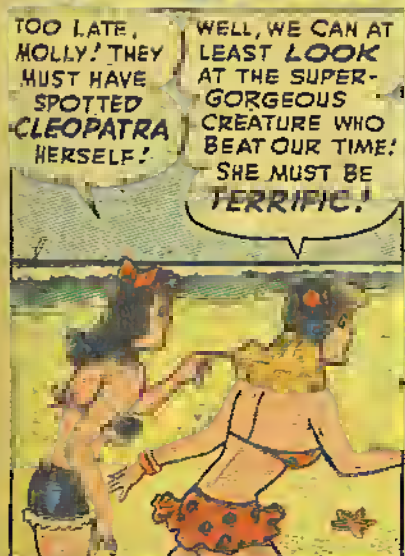
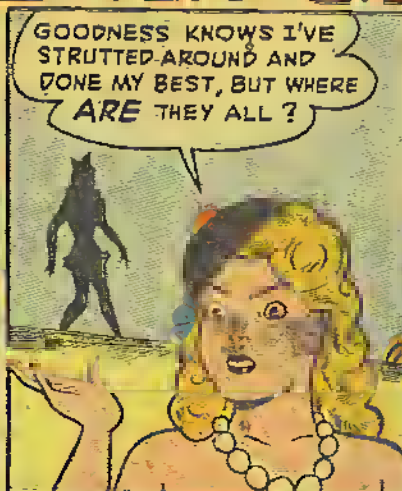
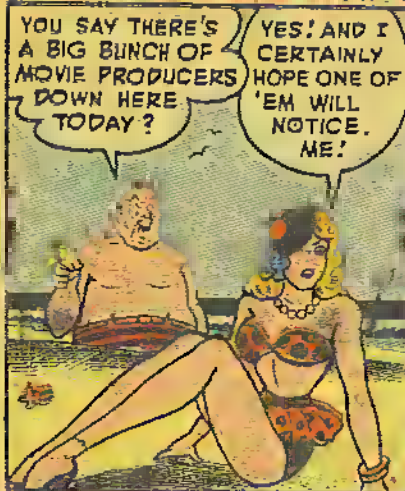




MOLLY the MODEL

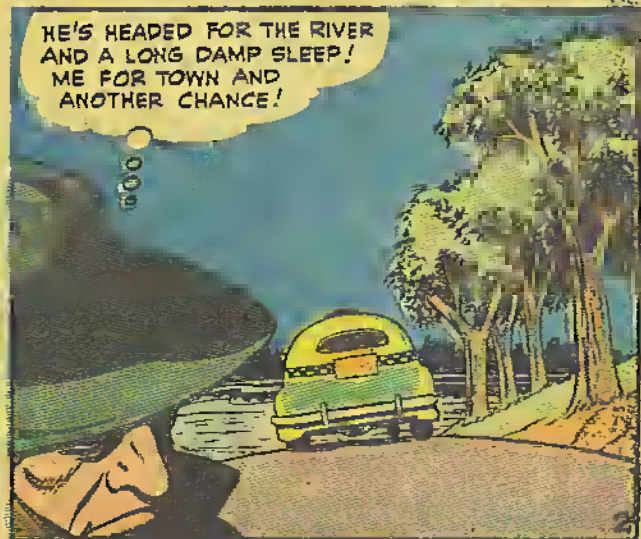


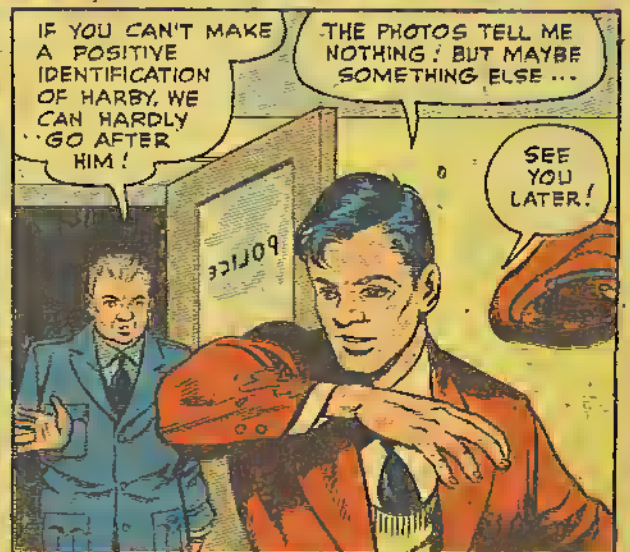
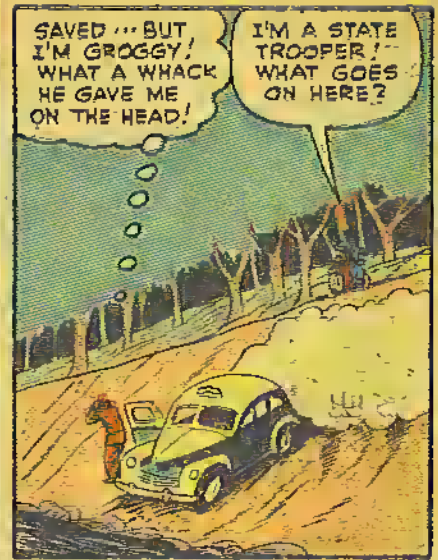
MOLLY the MODEL

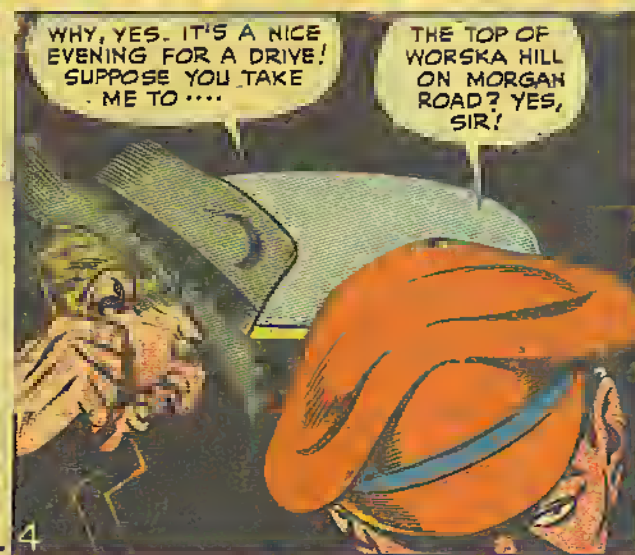
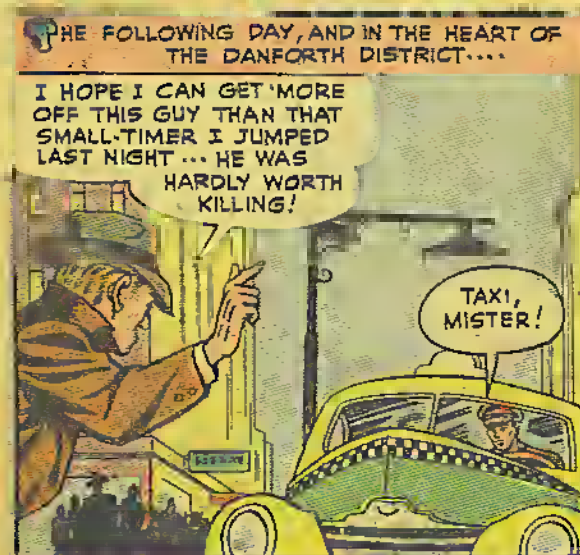
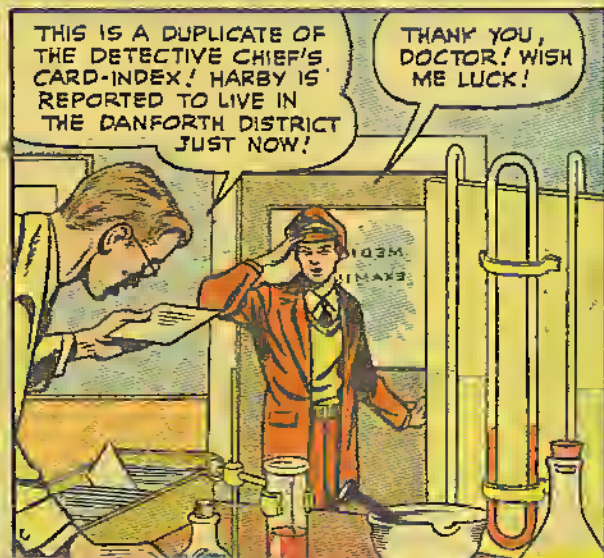
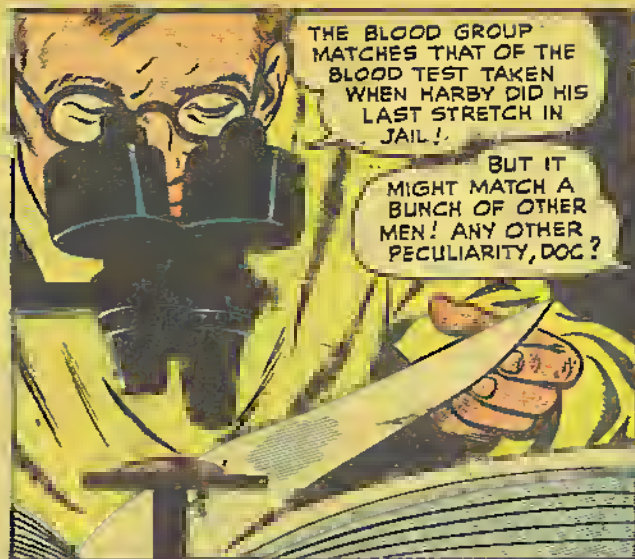
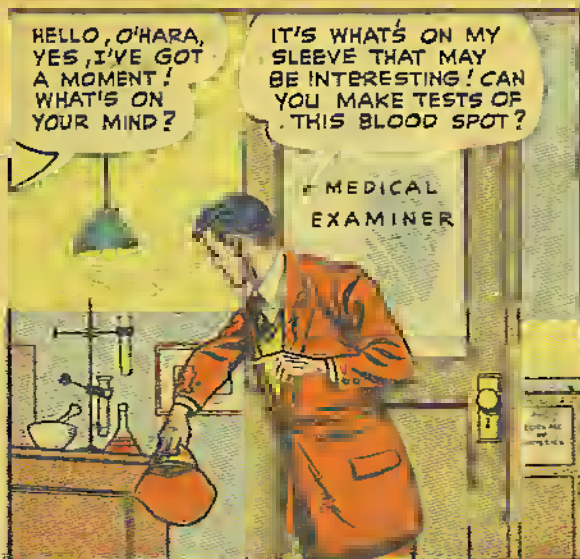


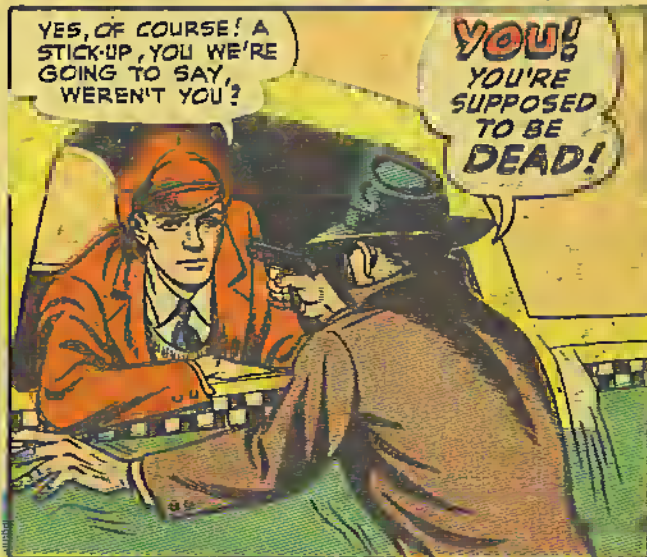
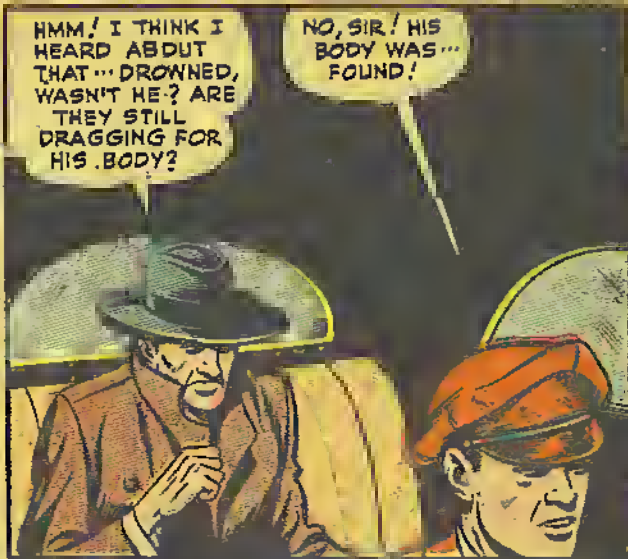
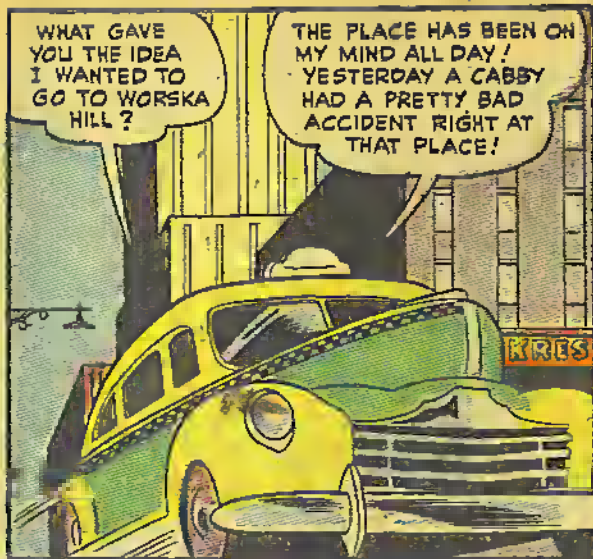
HACK O'HARA

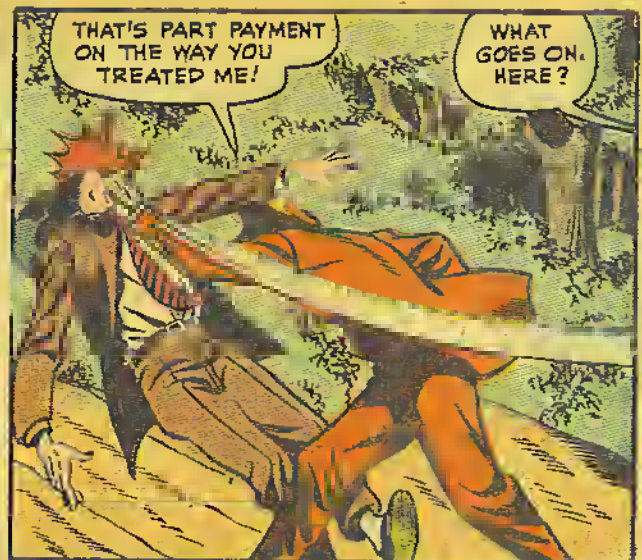


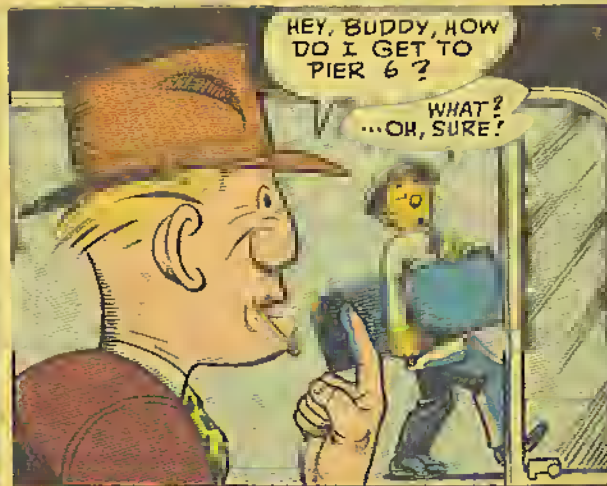
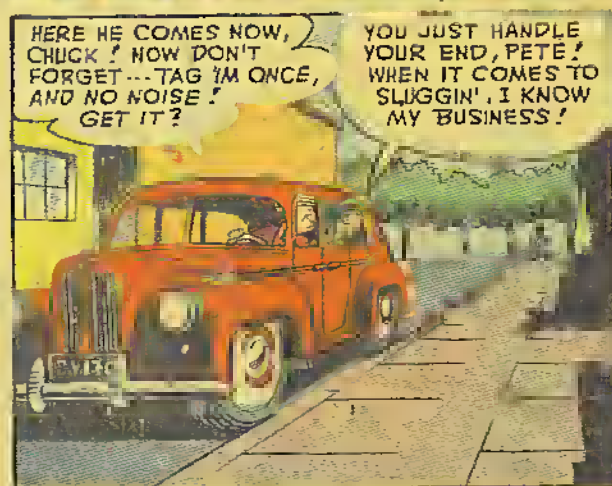
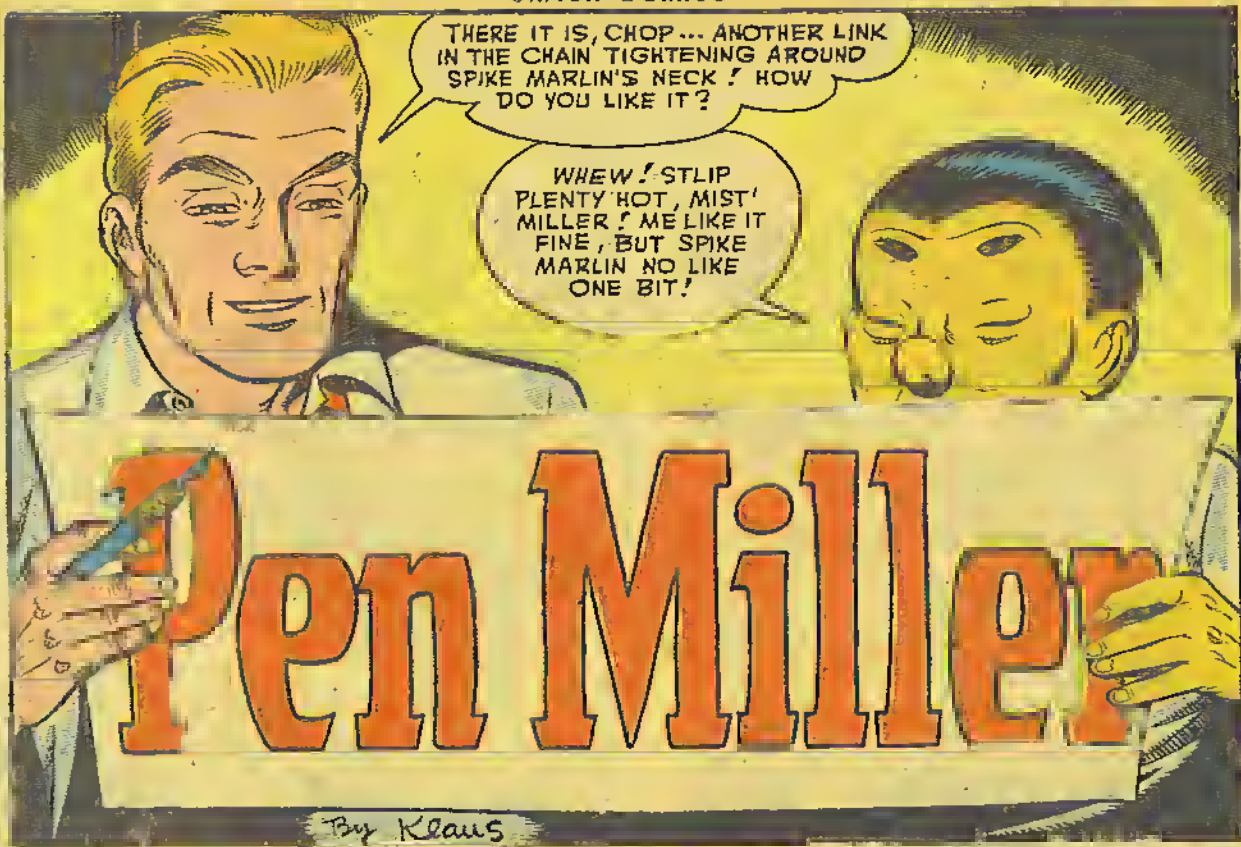


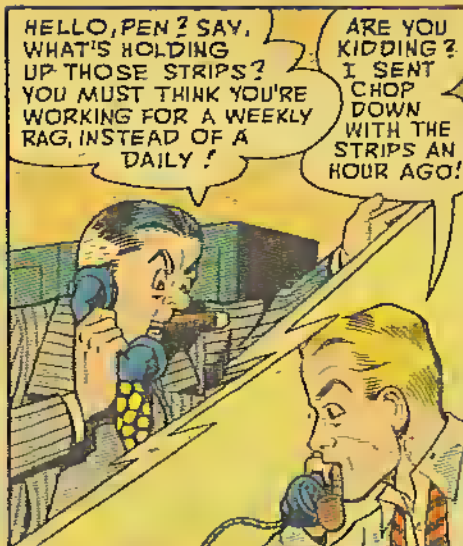




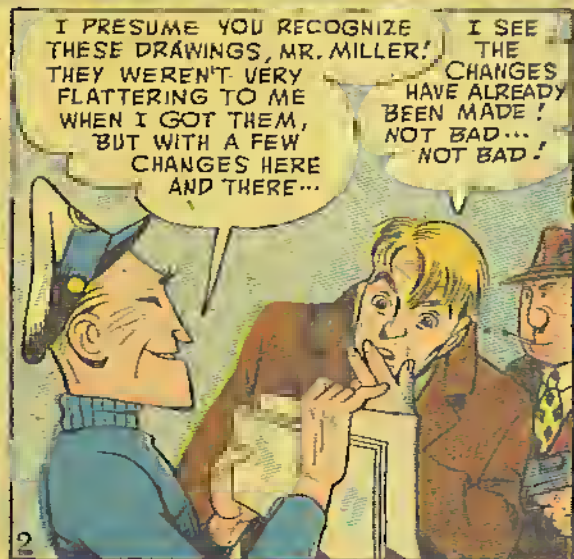
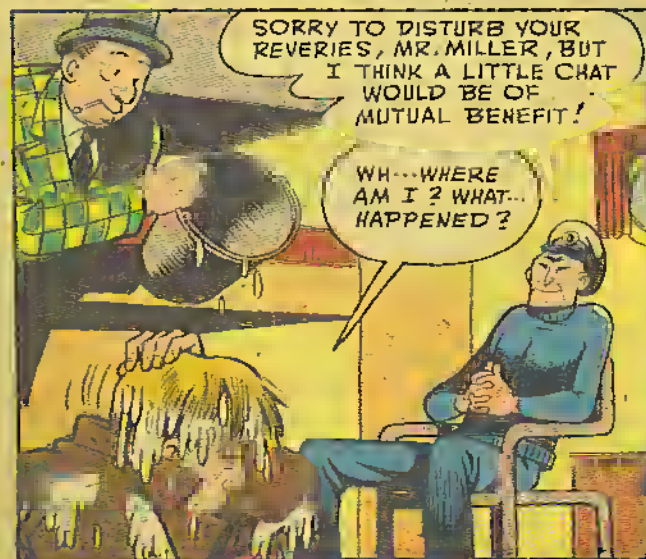
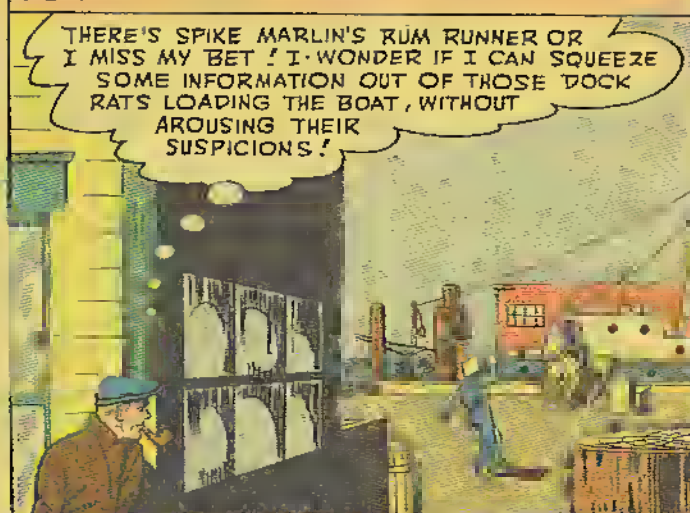


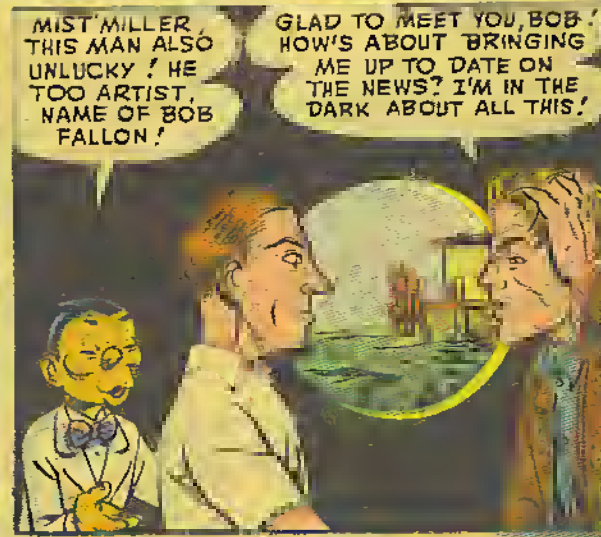
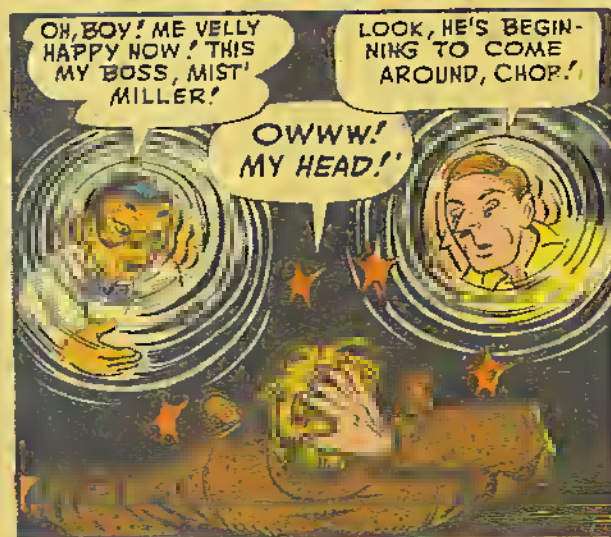
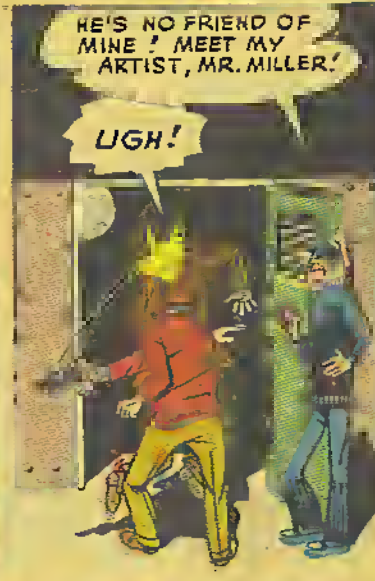
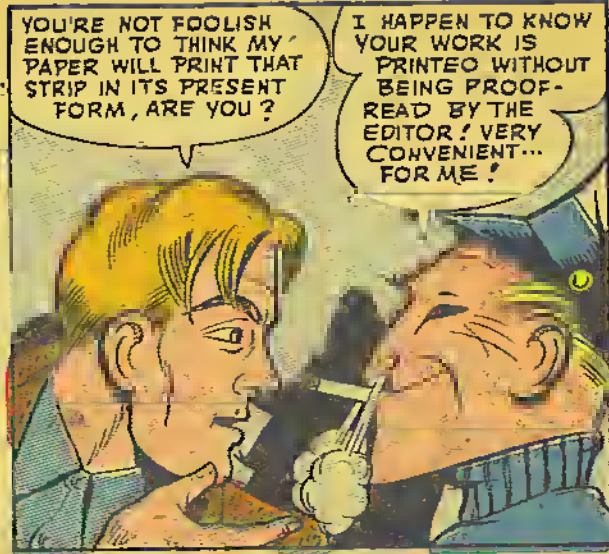
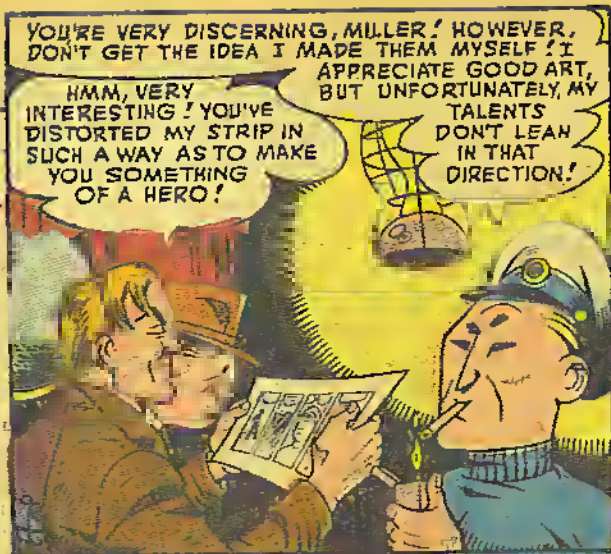






A short time later... on the waterfront...





..SO WHEN ART SCHOOL CLOSED FOR THE SEASON LAST WEEK, I THOUGHT I'D SIGN UP FOR A LITTLE CRUISE! YOU KNOW ... FOREIGN PORTS, STRANGE LANDS AND ALL THAT!

AND THEN YOU FOUND YOU'D BEEN SHANGHAIED BY MARLIN AND FORCED TO DO HIS DIRTY WORK, SUCH AS RE-DRAWING MY STRIPS!



LOOK, WE'VE GOTTA CRACK OUT OF HERE, SOMEHOW! I HAVE A PLAN THAT HAS WHISKERS ON IT... BUT SOMEHOW IT ALWAYS WORKS!

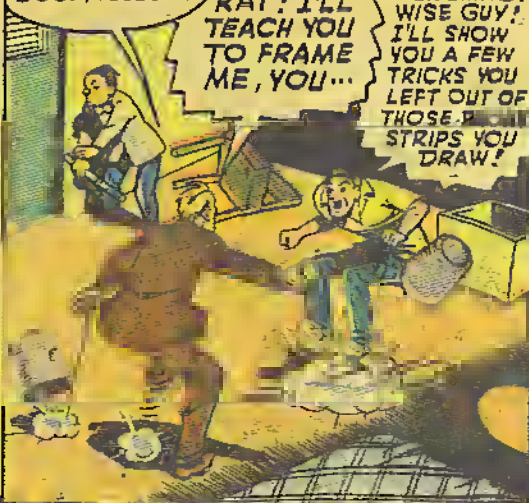
SHOOT, MR. MILLER! I'M LISTENING!



OKAY, NOW MAKE IT SOUND GOOD, FELLOW!

WHY, YOU YELLOW RAT! I'LL TEACH YOU TO FRAME ME, YOU...

OH, YEAH? START PUNCHING, WISE GUY! I'LL SHOW YOU A FEW TRICKS YOU LEFT OUT OF THOSE P-STRIPS YOU DRAW!



HEY, WHAT'S GOIN' ON? UGH!

JUST A FRIENDLY GAME OF TAG-AND YOU'RE IT!



SHHH! BOB AND I WILL HANDLE THE HEAVY ARTILLERY, CHOP! YOU TAKE CARE OF THE MOPPING-UP DEPARTMENT!

OKAY, MIST' MILLER! NEW BLOOM SWEEP CLEAN... BUT MOP MUCH BETTER FOR HOLLIBLE MAN LIKE MIST' MARLIN!



I WANT YOU TO DO SOMETHING RIGHT FOR A CHANGE, BUBBLE-BRAIN! DELIVER THESE STRIPS TO THE PRESS ROOM... NOT TO THE OFFICE!

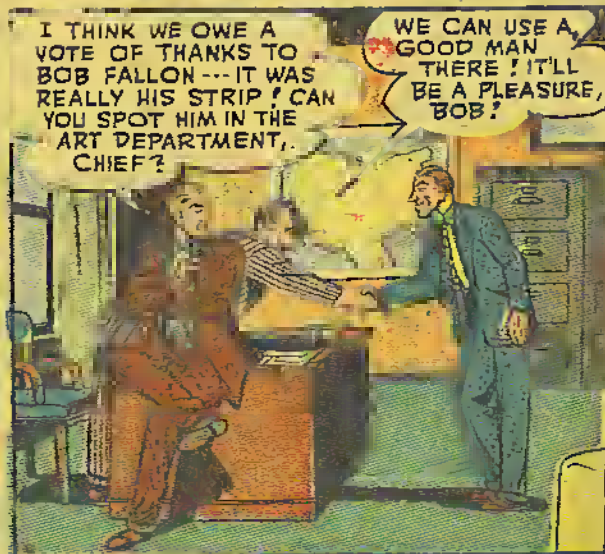
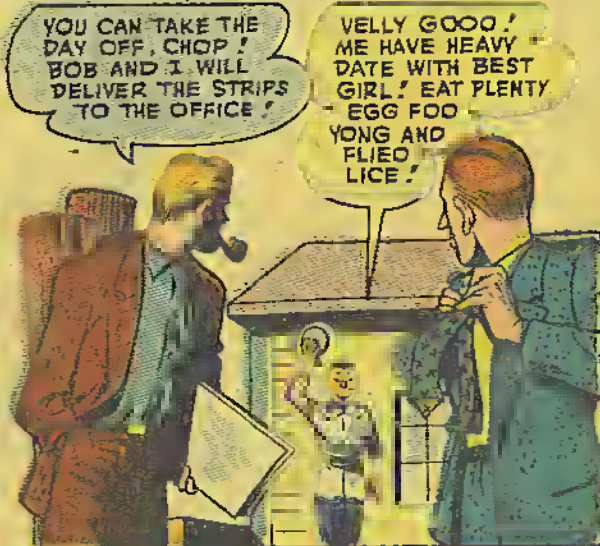
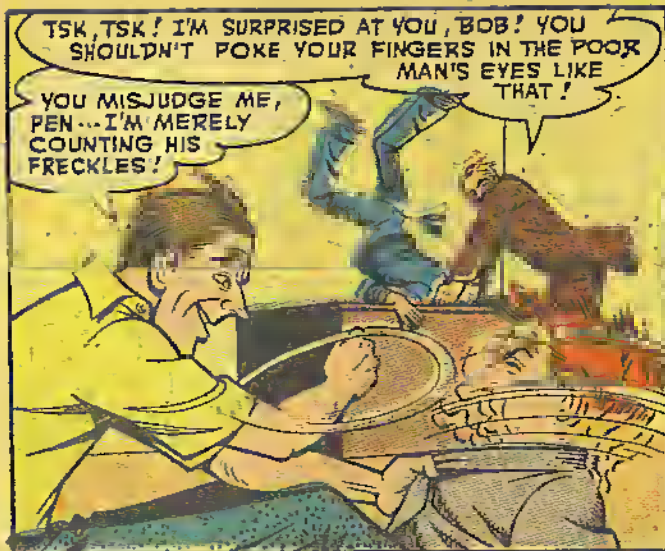
I GOTCHA, SPIKE!



AT LAST WE HAVE SOMETHING IN COMMON, MARLIN... MY FIST, AND YOUR FACE!

BEFORE YOU DELIVER THAT STRIP, LET ME DOT YOUR EYES!





FLOOGY

The FIJI



And one day he succeeded...

AH! NOW
JUST ONE
DROP OF THIS,
AND...



HE WAS **SO** SUCCESSFUL
THAT HE AND EVERYTHING
AROUND HIM WERE
CHANGED!

AA-AAA! WHEN
ARE YOU GONNA
QUIT BELIEVING
THOSE FAIRY
TALES?



THEY SAY IT HAPPENED
IN THIS FOREST, AND
THIS PLACE LOOKS AS
THOUGH **SOMETHING**
WRECKED IT!

OH, STOP DAY-
DREAMING! LET'S
PLAY "FOLLOW
THE LEADER!"
I'M FIRST!



C'MON, DO SOMETHING
TOUGH! THIS IS SISSY
STUFF!

I'LL SHOW
HIM! I CAN
GET THROUGH
THAT TREE
TRUNK EASILY, BUT
HE'LL HAVE TO
WIGGLE THROUGH
ON HIS HANDS
AND KNEES!

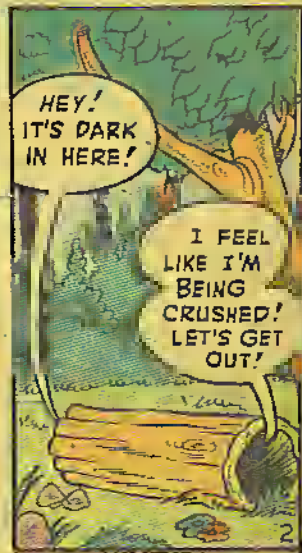


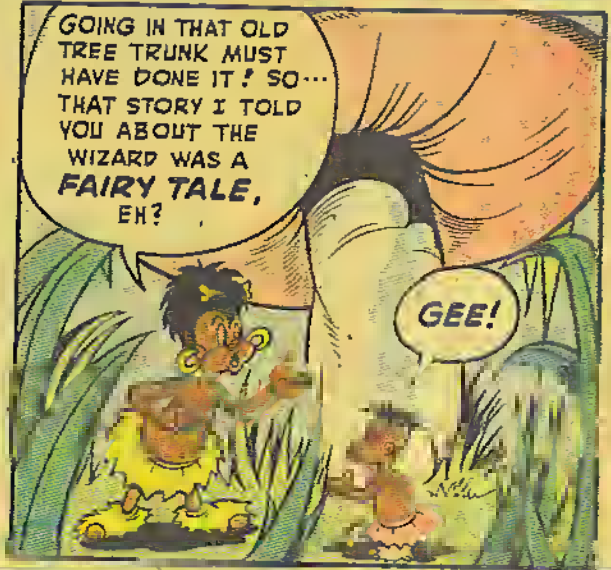
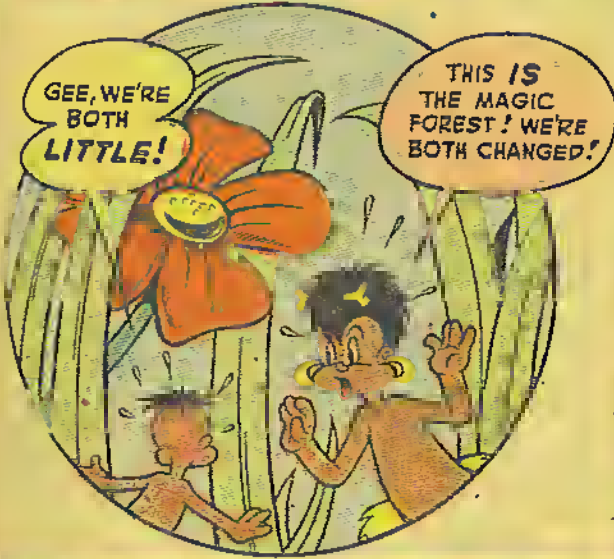
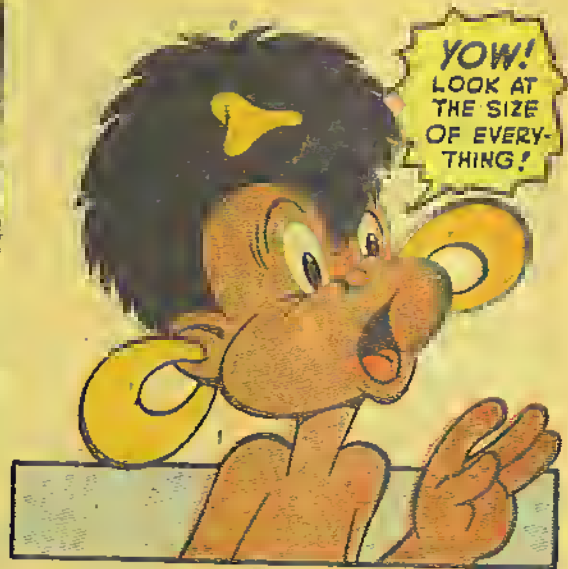
HMM! FUZZY THINKS
I CAN'T GET THROUGH
THIS OLD TREE TRUNK!
I'LL SHOW HIM!

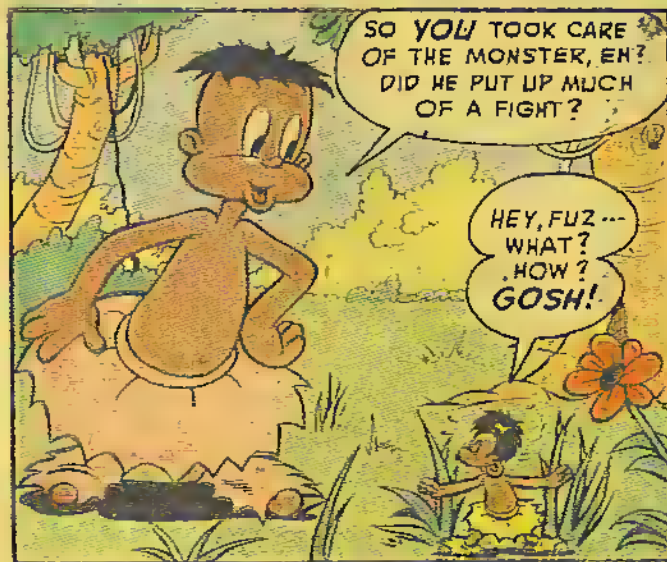
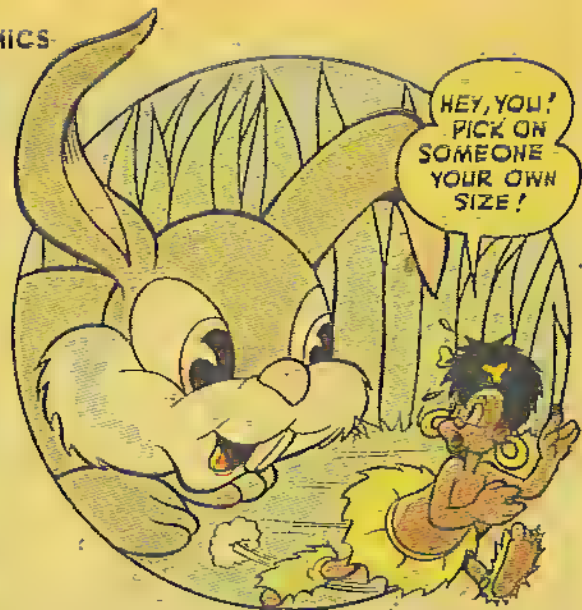
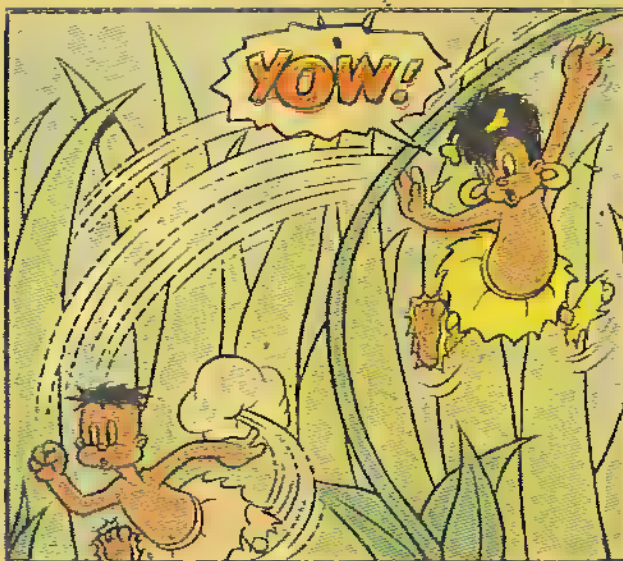


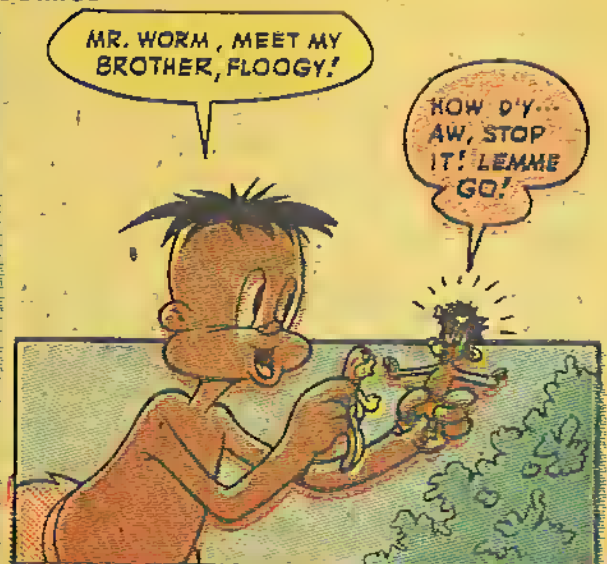
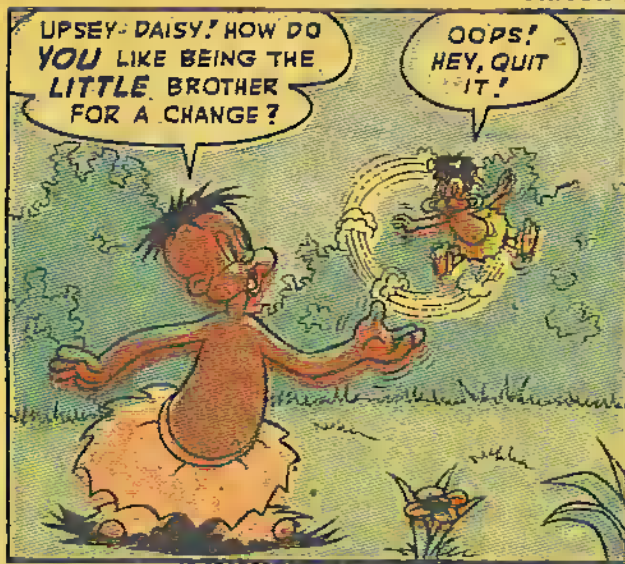
HEY!
IT'S DARK
IN HERE!

I FEEL
LIKE I'M
BEING
CRUSHED!
LET'S GET
OUT!









Captain TRIUMPH Wins

MUROC DRY LAKE, for eleven months out of the year, was just a desert expanse of lava rock. No one lived there or even went there, unless it was one of the aircraft companies of Los Angeles who wanted to test a new jet plane.

The twelfth month, however, Muroc took on an appearance of carnival. Crowds poured up from the southern cities, down from the northern ones. Cars were parked black for miles around.

Down in the hollow formed by the vanished inland sea, the roar and rumble was continuous. It was the annual Hot Red Races, in which youngsters drove hopped up cars for a prize.

Monte Spain owned the fastest car of the lot. Monte came from another state, and always looked upon the Dry Lake races as so much easy pickings. He always won.

"Look," he told his mechanic, "This is gonna be a push-over same as it's always been. Whaddya worryin' about?"

Mick, his mechanic, frowned. "Yeah, but Monte, they's a new guy showed up. He's got a humdinger of a jalopy. Won't let anyone see under the hood—but just listen to that mill!"

Monte held up a hand. "Listen. That him?"

A high, thin roar filled the dry lake bottom as the newcomer shot around the circle.

"Yeah," said Mick. "That's Chris Baker and his Myysery Car as he calls it."

"Pooh," said Monte. "So you fell for that stuff! Grow up, Mick. I'll show him and his mystery car what speed is!"

It was time for the trials. These showed the judges who had the fastest cars, who were the nerviest drivers, where each car was to be posted in the take-off.

Monte and his mechanic rolled their little red car onto the track. A roar went up from the onlookers. Monte Spain! Monte the winner!

Monte waved to the crowd and crawled into his car. Willing hands began pushing it for a start.

Perched on the hood and front fenders of a big roadster were Lance Gallant, Kim Meredith and their buddie, Biff. They were watching things with a great show of interest.

"Gee, I love races," said Lance. "I'd like to be out there myself."

Kim laughed. She was a pretty girl. "I'll bet those kids wouldn't have a chance if you were behind the wheel."

"Naw," drawled Biff, grinning good-naturedly. "What I always say is, nobody can run no car faster than Lance or Michael."

"Oh," said Kim, glancing at Lance. This was a touchy point. Michael, Lance's twin brother, had been killed in an aviation accident in 1942. The lad's death had done something to Lance, had given him a supernatural power, which he used only when the forces of evil were at work. Michael had planned to marry Kim.

"I'm sorry, pal," said Biff. "Forgot."

"It's all right, Biff. Think nothing of it. Only, speaking of Michael just then made a chill go over me."

"Why, Lance!" Kim said. "How strange."

Lance smiled, pointed to the track. "I guess that Spain kid really has something. Look at him go!"

Monte Spain roared around the track in a wild burst of speed. When he rolled in, his time went up on the board. The crowd gasped. Here was a new record!

"Well," said Lance, "I guess no one here will give Monte much trouble."

Another car, small, black, and with no markings, rolled out at the starting line.

Biff said, "Look who's here—Chris Baker!"

"Well, I'll be!" exclaimed Lance. "That sure is Chris! He's got a new car."

"Who is this Chris?" Kim wanted to know.

Lance said, "A nice lad from Texas. Never got very far with racing, but sticks somehow. I wonder where he got the new car."

Chris took off in a roar of motor sound and went tearing around the oval. The crowd sat

tense. The little black car was almost a blur as it passed the crowd.

"Say," said Lance, "if Monte has anything on Chris, it isn't much. That lad wasn't standing still!"

Chris' qualifying time went up. It was just three-fifths of a second below that of Monte.

The crowd yelled itself hoarse. Here was going to be a gruelling contest and no kidding! Two hot cars always made for fun.

"Aw, nuts," growled Monte to Mick. "So what if he is close? Mebbe I was holding her in a bit. Don't drop too much cash on Baker, pal."

Mick grinned. "Not me, Monte. I'm playing on you. Guess mebbe you was a little light on the foot in the trials, eh?"

Monte smirked. "Saving up for the real thing."

The first three events didn't include either Chris or Monte. They were the top favorites and were thus placed in the last two races, which were the big events of the meet.

During the preliminaries, one car turned over and caught fire. The driver wasn't badly hurt but his car was a wreck.

Another threw a tire tread, which put him out of the contest.

The first of the two main events came up. There were three cars—Monte's, Chris's and a blue job owned by a local boy. He had showed enough in the qualifying runs to let him in.

Whoever won both of these trials won himself a nice piece of change, besides medals and plenty of glory to brag about the rest of the year. If two drivers split the two races, the money was halved, and no medals given.

"I'd like to see Chris pick off this meet," said Lance. Kim nodded.

"Me, too, if he never has done it," she said.

The three cars came up to the line roaring, but straggled out. The flag signalling NO START was flashed down. The cars had to return and begin all over again.

The second trip was a good start. The race was on!

The three stuck close together around the first lap. Then the blue car began falling behind a trifle. Monte Spain instantly took advantage of the opening and put himself alongside Chris's car.

Now the two champs jockeyed for first place. It was an even fight for the first two

laps, then Monte began several of the tricks for which he was famous. He got and kept the pole position, having slammed Chris out of it by a fluke.

The two cars crossed the winning line with Monte Spain a half car length ahead of Chris. But while the crowds roared, Chris got out and shook hands with the winner, grinning. Good loser.

"Oh, shoot!" said Kim. "He was so close, too. Do you think Monte will win the next one?"

Lance puckered his brow. "Looks like it, Kim."

Biff said, "I don't like the looks of things, Lance."

"Meaning?"

Biff shrugged. "Call it a hunch," said the big fellow.

The two cars crossed the line perfectly and got the starting flag. They roared away around the first turn—the second—third—a full lap. On to the second. They were as one. Then Chris began drawing away slowly. The crowds cheered. But on a turn, with Chris a length ahead, Monte pulled a fast one and cut in on him, gaining the lead.

But Chris again crept up, nosing Monte's tail. Then suddenly from Monte's car came a black pall of smoke. It enveloped Chris completely. Monte's car came into the clear, still belching smoke.

"Migosh!" cried Lance. "Chris will crash sure."

Then Lance did something—rubbed a birthmark on his left wrist—that called the spirit of his dead brother Michael and made the twins one, the indomitable Captain Triumph. With a flash of light Lance was gone. Everyone heard the rending crash as Chris hit a curve and his car turned over. But no one saw the mystic figure of Captain Triumph snatch the boy from instant death just as the car was rolling on its top. No one saw it but Chris himself.

Afterwards he swore it was like a great light in the blackness of smoke that grabbed him and lifted him up, while his car turned over and over, ripping itself to pieces.

Monte Spain was barred from the tracks for using an oil injection gun that shot crude oil into the hot exhaust and thus created a cloud of black smoke.

Captain Triumph had again proved that greed and injustice were wrong.

ISN'T IT TOO MARVELOUS, DAD? GOOPY IS GOING INTO THE OIL BUSINESS!

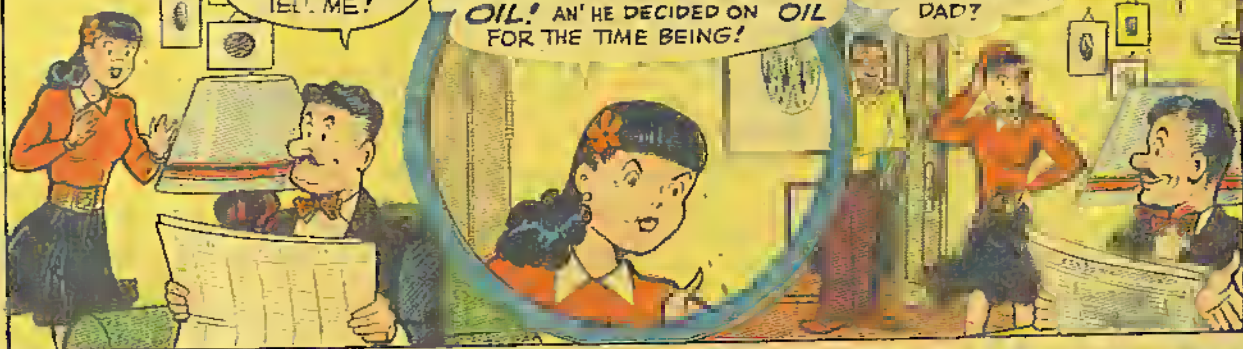
KIKI KELLY

OH, POSSIBLY... BUT IF DESTINY DECREES THAT HE BE A BIG OIL MAN... WELL, AN HONEST BUCK IS AN HONEST BUCK, I SUPPOSE!

QUITE A PROFITABLE INDUSTRY, THEY TELL ME!

YES, THERE WAS SOME DOUBT IN GOOPY'S MIND WHETHER TO BE AN ENGINEER AND BUILD BRIDGES OR GO INTO OIL! AN' HE DECIDED ON OIL FOR THE TIME BEING!

BUT BUILDING BRIDGES IS A LITTLE MORE ROMANTIC, DON'T YOU THINK, DAD?



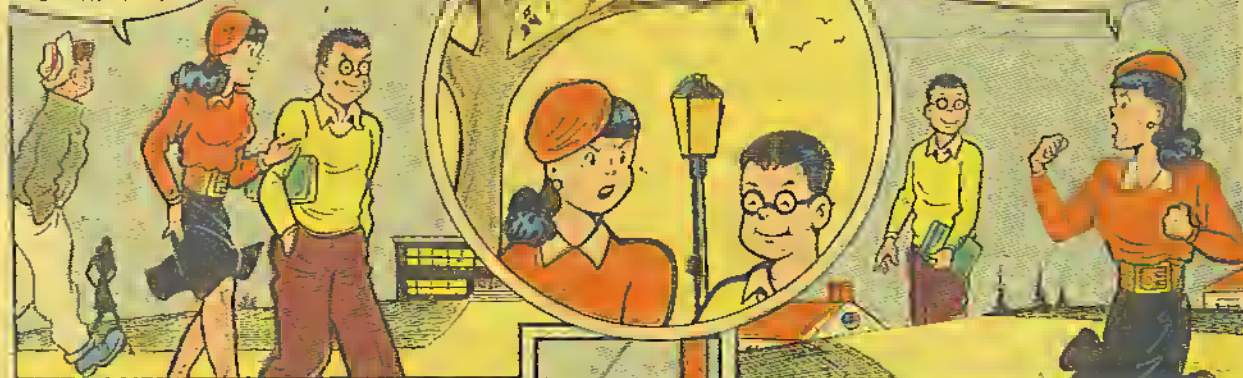
OF COURSE, HE HASN'T A BIG JOB TO BEGIN WITH, BUT GOOPY'S THE TYPE WHO'LL GO RIGHT TO THE TOP!

WHO TOLD YOU THAT... HIM?

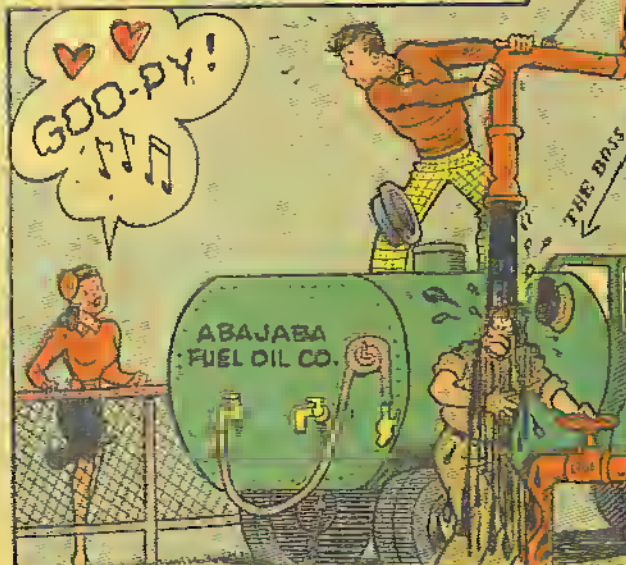
WHAT IF HE DID, HERKIMER JONES?

IF YOU ASK ME, HE'S POURING IT ON A BIT!

GOOD DAY, HERKIMER! I'M GOING STRAIGHT DOWN TO WHERE HE WORKS, NOW, AND SHOW HIM THERE'S ONE PERSON WHO HAS FAITH IN HIS FUTURE!



♥ ♥ ♥
GOO-PY!
♪ ♪



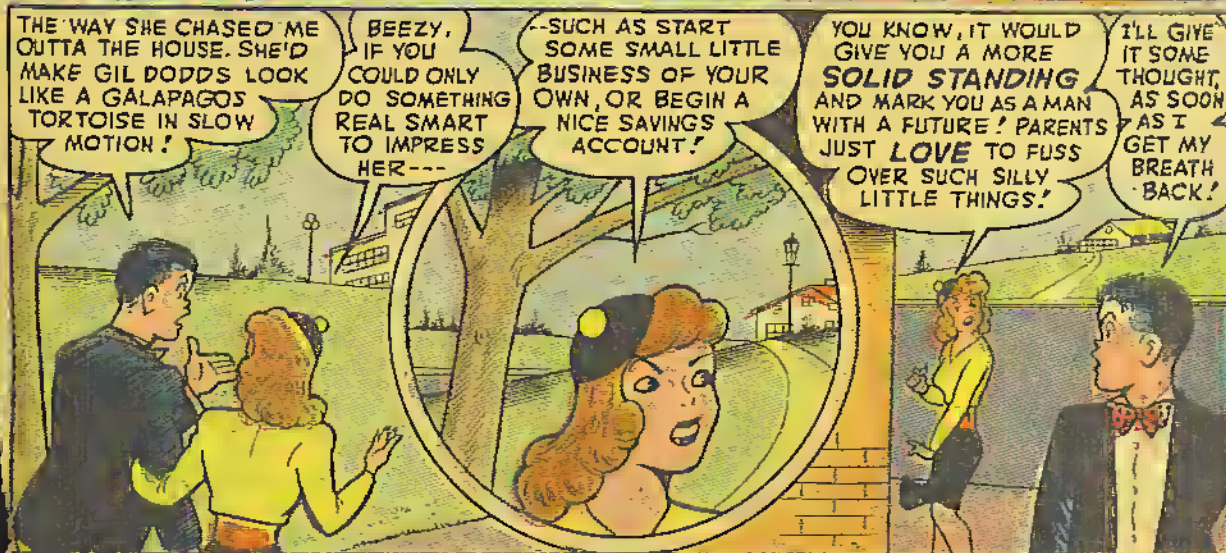
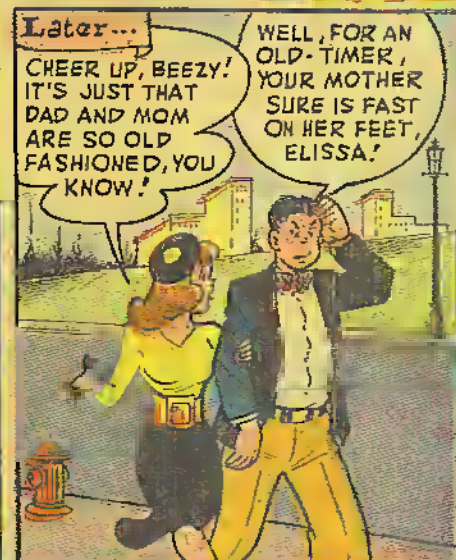
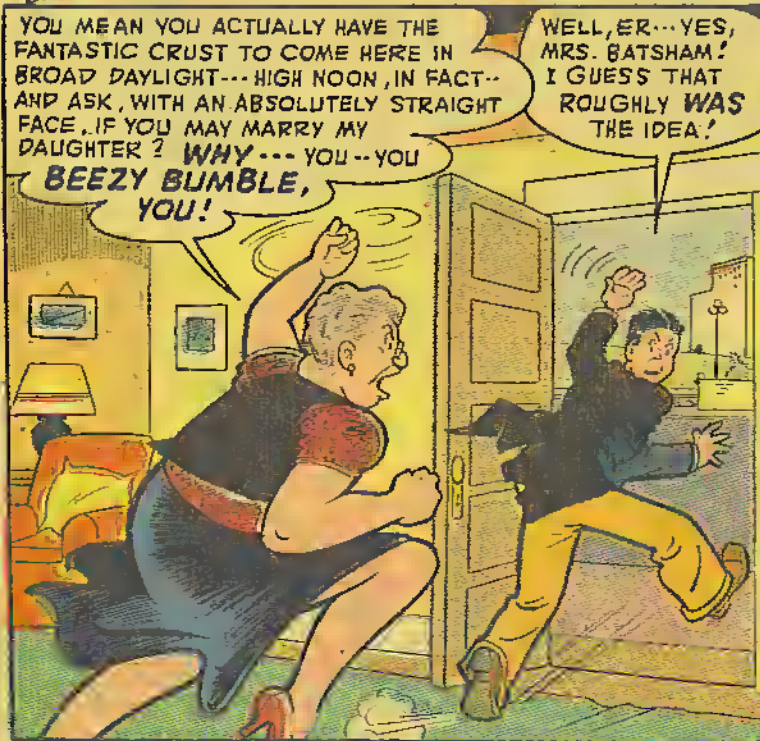
★ ★ ★
Clatt! Tott!
***!!



CHEER UP, GOOPY! YOU CAN STILL BUILD BRIDGES, YOU KNOW!



BEEZY



Later...

START IN A BUSINESS...
AMASS A BANK ACCOUNT?
WHY DOES A SACRED THING
LIKE LOVE ALWAYS HAVE TO
BE MESSED UP WITH SUCH
SORDID COMMERCIAL
INTERESTS?

AND HOW DOES ONE
GO ABOUT **ACHIEVING**
THESE **ARABIAN**
NIGHT MIRACLES?

OOPS!



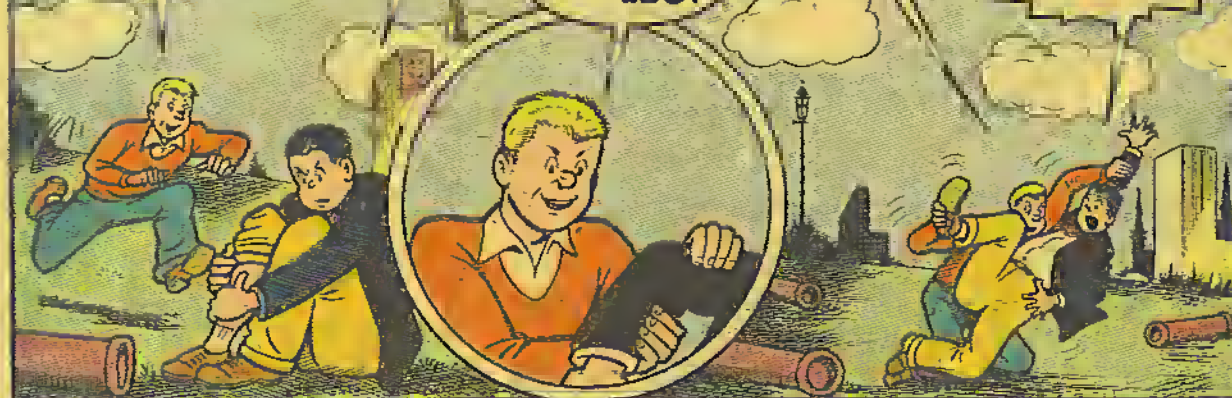
HEY, BEEZY!
I SAW YA FALL!
Y'HURT? PRETTY
BAD, I GUESS, EH?

NO, NOT MUCH!
JUST SKINNED
MY SHINS A
BIT!

OH, IT *MUST*
BE WORSE'N
THAT! HERE,
LET ME FEEL
THAT ARM AND
THAT *LEG!*

DOES
THAT
HURT?

YEAH!
OW!
OUCH!



JUST AS I THOUGHT!
Y'PROBABLY GOT
MULTIPLE FRACTURES
OF THE MEDULLA
OBLONGATA! AND
INTERNALLY YOU'RE
A POSITIVE WRECK!
NO DOUBT ABOUT IT!

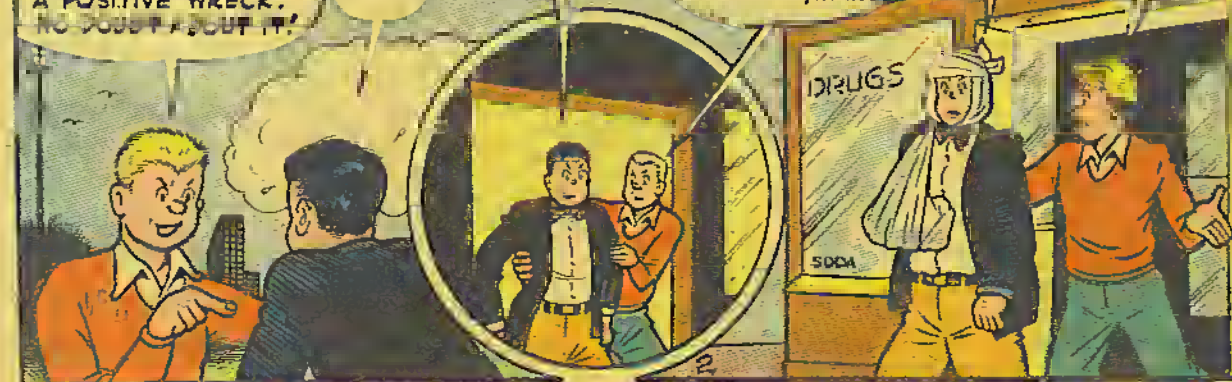
HUH?

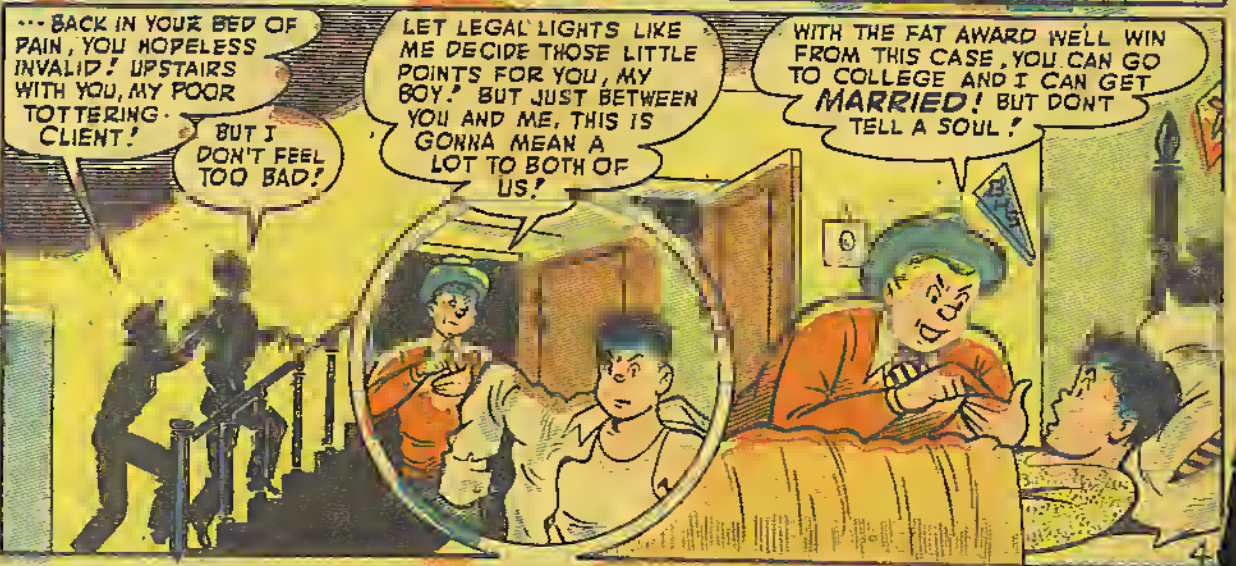
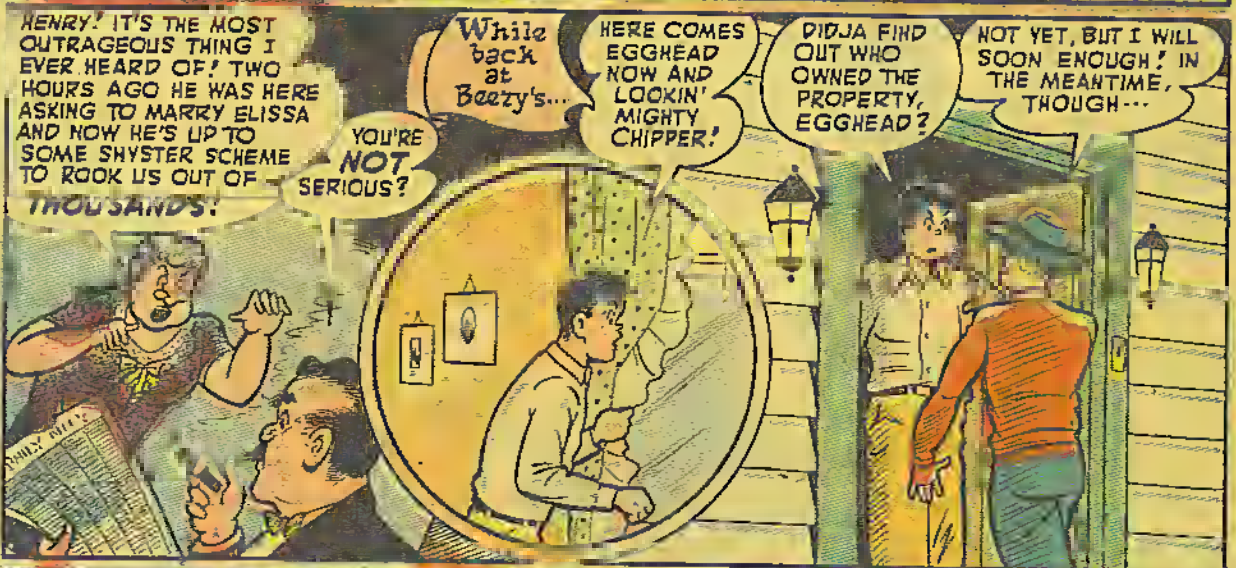
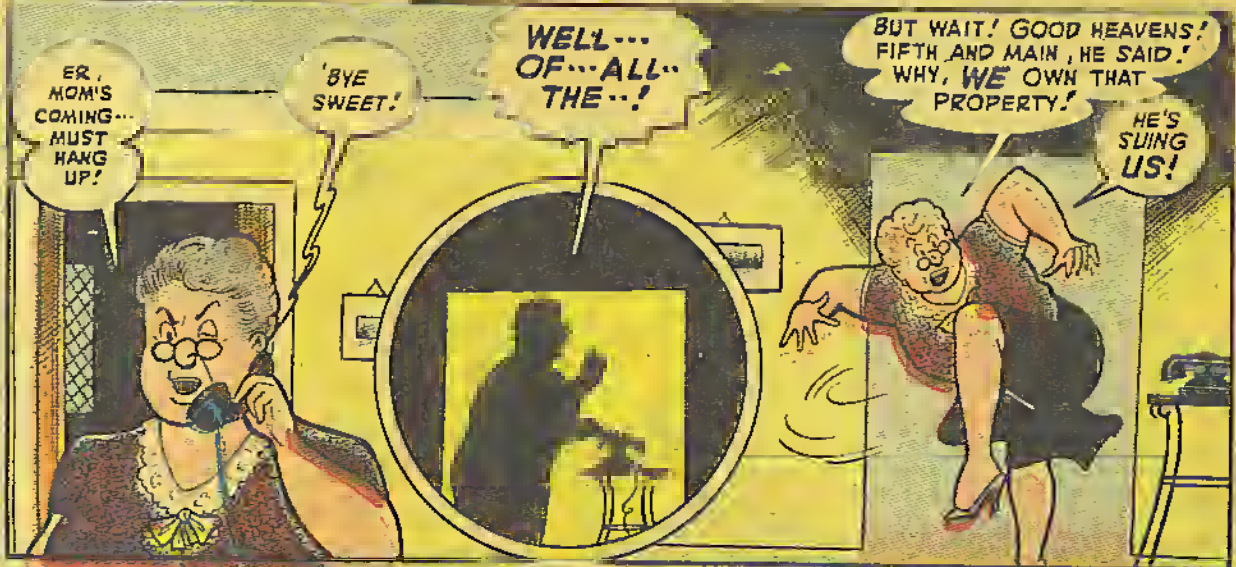
WELL, COME
TO THINK OF IT,
I DON'T FEEL
ANY *TOO* GOOD,
I GUESS!

GOOD OL' BEEZY!
BLOODY, BUT
UNBOWED! HERE,
LET ME HELP YOU
INTO THIS DRUG
STORE FOR SOME
FIRST AID, MAN!

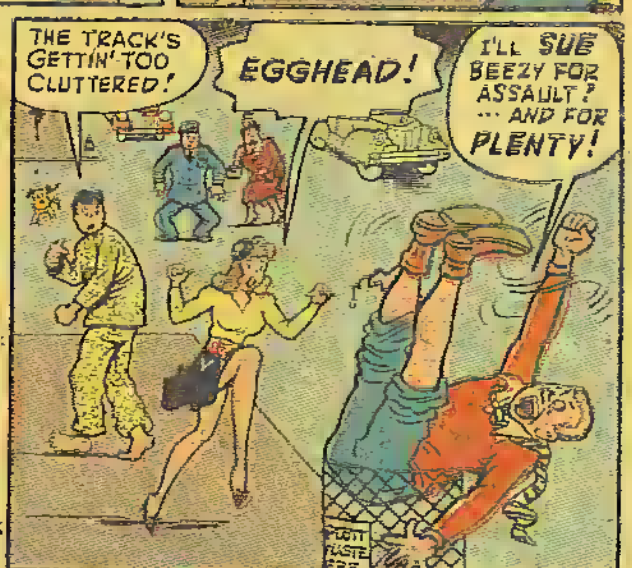
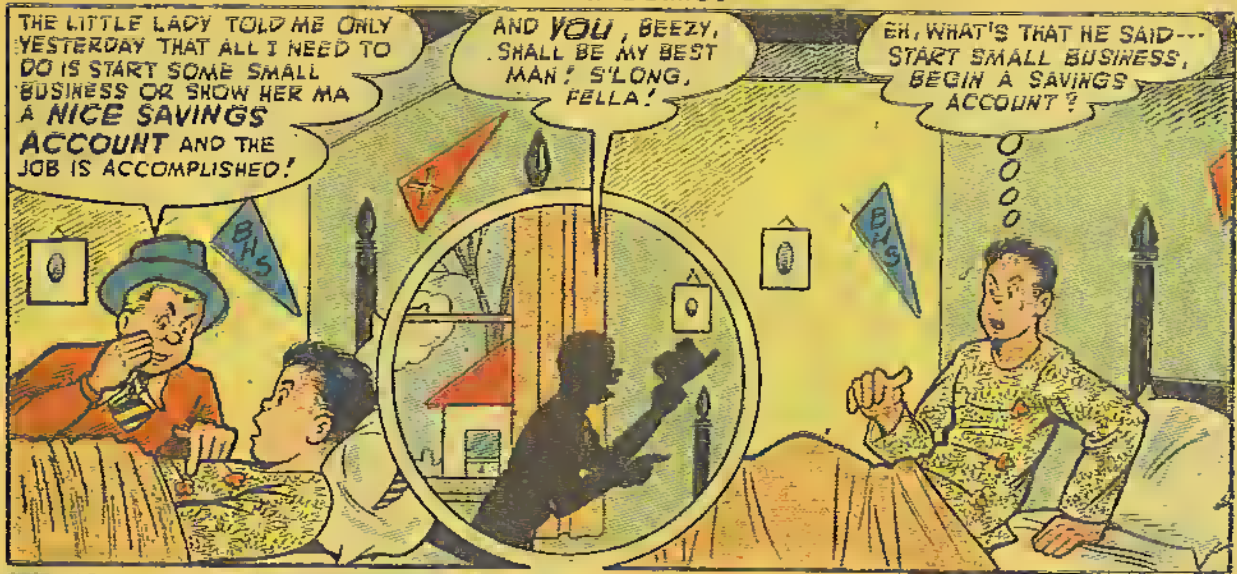
BUT, GEE,
IS ALL
THIS
NECESSARY,
EGGHEAD?

I'LL SAY IT IS!
NOW I'LL GET
YOU HOME
AND GO TO
WORK ON
THE CASE!





CRACK COMICS



**Our Biggest
Bulb Bargain**



AMAZING GET ACQUAINTED

TULIP OFFER

OUR FAMOUS HARDY PLANTING STOCK

Dozens of brilliant flaming colors in this Rainbow Mix Assortment . . . Darwin, Triumph, Breeder, and Cottage Tulips for remarkable low cost of less than 2c per bulb. Our prize selection of famous young especially selected strain and smaller because they are first and second year bulbs—1½" to 2¼" in circumference. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back.

Selected by Dutch-American growers and inspected by the State Department of Agriculture. Will fill your garden with blazing color ranging from delicate pastel shades to bold flaming hues. MAIL THE COUPON TODAY!

ORDER NOW!

Send No Money!

Send no money to get this marvelous tulip bulb bargain! Just check which offers you desire and rush order today! Your tulip bulb assortment with extra Dutch Iris Bulbs will be sent you immediately in plenty of time for fall planting. When postman brings your package just pay amount as checked in coupon plus C.O.D. postage. If you remit with order, we'll pay postage. If you don't feel that you have hit the bargain jackpot of the garden world, return the bulbs and receive your money back.

**100
BULBS
for \$1.69**

SPECIAL OFFER COUPON

Michigan Bulb Company, Dept. RR-1508
Grand Rapids 2, Michigan

Send order checked below. I will pay postman on arrival of package in time for fall planting, plus postage, on guarantee that I may return if not satisfied and get full refund.

- ☐ 100 1st and 2nd year size Tulip Bulbs with 12 Dutch Iris Bulbs extra . . . \$1.69
- ☐ 100 Exhibition Tulips with 12 Dutch Iris Bulbs extra . . . \$2.98
- ☐ 12 Evergreens each 2 years old or older . . . \$1.69
- ☐ 10 Chrysanthemum Plants with 3 Ranunculus Bulbs extra . . . \$1.69
- ☐ 20 Lily Bulbs with 3 Ranunculus Bulbs extra . . . \$1.94
- ☐ 50 Holland Crocus Bulbs with 3 Ranunculus Bulbs extra . . . \$1.69
- ☐ 12 King Alfred Daffodil Bulbs with 3 Ranunculus Bulbs extra . . . \$1.49
- ☐ 55 Perennials—11 popular varieties . . . \$1.94
- ☐ Send C.O.D. (I pay postage)
- ☐ Remittance enclosed (Michigan Bulb pays postage)

EXTRA

**12 DUTCH
IRIS BULBS**

Yes, as your gift for ordering this astounding tulip assortment . . . we will send you 12 genuine first-year Dutch Iris Bulbs extra and without additional cost. These gorgeous irises will give your garden new purples and blues that will make it the envy of your neighbors. All solid disease-free bulbs . . . extra just for mailing your tulip order coupon now.

Other Delightful Flower Bargains!

Chrysanthemums . . . New CUSHION MEMB. Young vigorous plants which will fill your garden with spectacular beauty. Assorted colors . . . \$1.69
10 plants . . .

Lilies . . . Our hardy improved strain makes it easy for you to grow beautiful stately lilies. 10 varieties to make a color riot during the entire summer . . . 20 bulbs . . . \$1.94

MICHIGAN BULB CO., Dept. RR-1508 GRAND RAPIDS 2, MICH.

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY
ZONE STATE

Boys!
Girls!

PRIZES GIVEN



WRIST WATCH



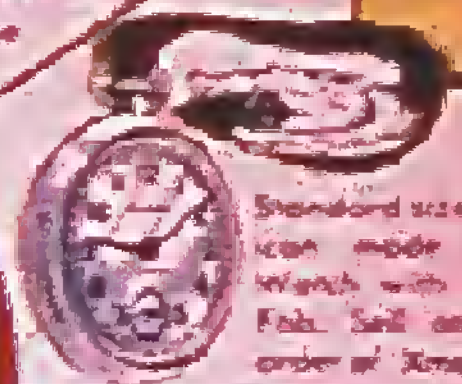
A beautiful Wrist Watch, suitable for Boys, Girls, Men or Women. Given for selling one order, plus \$1.50 extra.

Chemistry Set



Famous "Chemcraft" Set for interesting experiments and Magic. Book of 30 Myriad Chemistry Experiments. Sell one order.

POCKET WATCH



Standard size American made Pocket Watch with leather Fob. Sell only one order of Xmas Packs.

SHOW HOME MOVIES



Get this Famous Cowboy Show right into your home. Get this Famous Cowboy Show right into your home. Get this Famous Cowboy Show right into your home. Sell one order plus \$3.50 extra.

Daisy's "Targeteer" Air Pistol



This swell outfit includes big air pistol, target and complete target set. Sell one order plus 75c extra.



Dresser Set

Full size Comb, Brush and Mirror - beautifully decorated. Sell one order of Xmas Packs.



TOUCHDOWN! OFFICIAL SIZE FOOTBALL

Given for selling only one order.



Pen and Pencil Set

Fountain pen with matching automatic pencil. Sell one order.



SWEETHEART DOLL

Past and pretty in her sweetheart gown. Sell one order of Xmas Packs.



CAMERA With Carrying Case

Takes 16 pictures on each roll of film. Sell one order plus \$1.00 extra.



Campfire Ukulele

Full size, Decorated with Western scene. Clear mellow tone. Sell only one order.



"Flying Ace"

Best Bearing Roller Skates for Boys and Girls. Sell one order plus \$1.00 extra.



Famous Texan Jr.

All Metal Cos. Pistol with genuine leather Holder and Belt. Sell only one order.

MORE PRIZES

- Boys in our big prize sheet
- Boy Rogers Gun
- Train and Truck Set
- Kelley Camera
- Archery Quilt
- Overnight Bag
- Pool Table
- Hunting Knife
- Alarm Clock
- Wood Burning Set
- Fishing Quilt

GET YOUR PRIZE THIS EASY WAY

BOYS! GIRLS! Get swell prizes for yourself or gifts for Mother and Dad. Most prizes shown above and many others in our BIG PRIZE SHEET are GIVEN WITHOUT A CENT OF COST for selling 40 Xmas Packs at 10c each. Some of the bigger prizes require extra money as stated in BIG PRIZE SHEET.

It is easy to sell these Xmas Packs to your family, friends and neighbors. Each pack contains 40 Sparkling Xmas Seals in brilliant colors - a big value. When sold, send us the money and choose your prize from our Big Prize Sheet.

Mark the coupon today for Xmas Packs and our Big Prize Sheet - tell us what prize you want.

SEND NO MONEY - WE TRUST YOU
AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO., Dept. 515, Lancaster, Pa.

AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO.
Dept. 515 Lancaster, Pa.

Please send me your Big Prize Sheet and one order of 40 Xmas Packs. I will resell them at 10c each, send you the money, and get my prize.

My choice of Prize is _____

Name _____

Street Address _____

or R.F.D. No. _____

City _____

State _____